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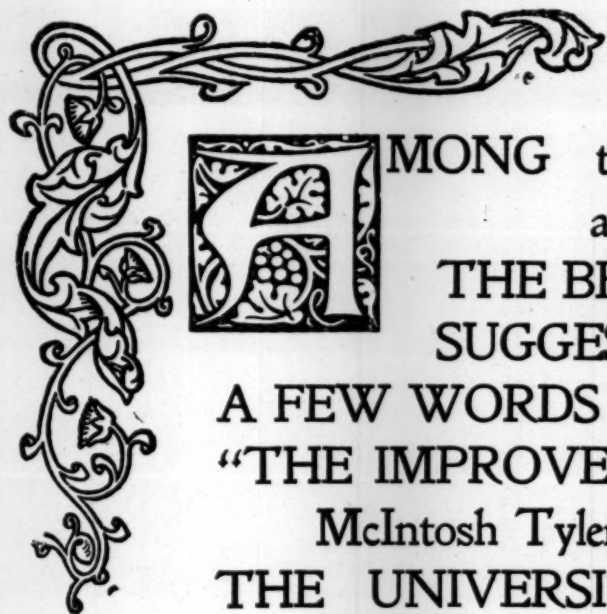
THE

CLUB WOMAN

VOL. II.

BOSTON, MASS., SEPTEMBER, 1898.

No. 6.



AMONG the prominent features of this number
are: ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

THE BELOVED POET, Emily B. Smith.
SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB DISCUSSIONS.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT WORDS, Alice M. Woods.

"THE IMPROVEMENT OF MRS. A." Story. Merion
McIntosh Tyler.

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT,
Viola Price Franklin.

A SCHOOL OF HOUSEKEEPING.

NEWS OF GENERAL AND STATE FEDERATIONS.

THE RELATION OF LITERARY CLUBS TO CIVIC IMPROVE-
MENT, Sibyl B. Giddings.

"THE CHILD OF THE WORLD," Poem by Edith Perry Estes, and
Poems by May Ellis Nichols and Eleanor Fullerton.



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Patriotic work will be based on the historical work of the Mechanic Association, supplemented by the work of patriotic organizations of the State.

MARION A. McBRIDE, Director of Departments.

THE CLUB WOMAN

A Monthly Journal Devoted to the Interests of Women's Clubs.

VOLUME II.

BOSTON, MASS., SEPTEMBER, 1898.

NUMBER 6

HELEN M. WINSLOW - - - Editor.

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The club presents ideals,—shall we put them into practical form?

The woman's club should be a potent factor in civic righteousness.

Be loyal to your club and Federation and do not expose their mistakes.

We want good agents in every town in the state to secure subscriptions for The Club Woman; and we want them now.

Club women endorse the Quaker theory, that happiness and progress lie in co-operation, not in competition.

Why say any longer that women only follow where men lead? More and more, women are suggestors, originators, inventors.

Will clubs which have made a success of the study of sociology send a short, concisely written account of their work to The Club Woman?

Contributors to The Club Woman should remember that unsigned communications, however good, will invariably find their way into the waste basket. If you do not wish your name printed, say so; but no contribution not backed by a name can appear in these pages.

"I want to thank you for having had the courage to start The Club Woman," writes a club president from the South. "It is the greatest possible help to us all in preparing and carrying on club work, so that we hardly see how we ever got along without it. Surely no up-to-date club woman can now that it has come."

University Extension has now come to be of such widely recognized importance among the women's clubs of this country that The Club Woman this month opens a new department devoted especially to that subject. Prof. Richard G. Moulton says one reason why the University Extension movement has been less rapidly successful here than in England is because the activity that might have been expected to go to University Extension work is already claimed by the literary clubs. "Any locality that could harmonize these two institutions—the literary club and the University Extension movement—would be doing great service to the education of the mature mind, which is not less important than the education of the child. In some localities clubs have made special arrangements to harmonize their programs with the expected arrangements of University Extension courses." Mrs. Viola Price Franklin of Lincoln, Nebraska, whose husband is a professor in the State University, will have charge of this department, and will have the assistance of one of the professors in the University Extension department of Chicago University.

"THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

SOME one writes: "What is all this I hear about the fine dressing at Denver? Was there really any over-dressing there? And won't it tend to create an aristocracy among the club women of this country? Won't those who cannot wear fine gowns stay away from the Biennials on that account, and so the Federation lose nearly all its value?"

Hardly. In the first place there was no over-dressing at Denver. There were a great many very handsome gowns worn, to be sure, but there were just as many that were decidedly not handsome, and many more that were unnoticeable either way. It was a delight to all, however, to behold those dainty French gowns that a few women wore. It is not probable that there was a single club woman present who grudged the wearers of these beautiful gowns their possession, or felt anything but pleasure at seeing them. We talk a great deal about art; is it not just as desirable in dress as anywhere? Surely it gave us all a sense of coolness and relief on those burning hot June days to see Mrs. Henrotin, for instance, in that sheer white muslin with its narrow ruffle edged with tiny black lace quillings. Would anybody have felt a whit more comfortable if she had appeared—for principle's sake, let us say,—in black bombazine?

Indeed, some of those ladies made pictures of themselves that were a revelation to the country woman. But they gave pleasure by doing so, to every one whose eyes fell upon them, just as a fine picture always gives pleasure. Mrs. Platt wore one of the most beautiful gowns I have ever seen. Should I envy her, or should I feel that Mrs. Platt was setting a bad example because I cannot afford anything so elegant? Rather should I not be thankful that the women of this great club movement are not creating unpleasant comments by making guys of themselves? Again, a woman who sees few if any pretty costumes at home is thankful for the chance to see pretty attire and pretty women when she goes away. God meant women to be attractive as He meant flowers to be lovely and birds to sing. And fortunate it is for the club movement that we do not feel it incumbent upon us as women of earnest purpose to make frumps of ourselves.

One mistake was made by a newspaper correspondent who reported "Two thousand women had gathered in Denver in up-to-date clothes." Why not? Why should not women of education and refinement wear garments of this year's cut and material? A great gathering of the medical fraternity assembled in Denver that same month; but nobody reported them as being chastely attired in up-to-date trousers, or when they got caught in the rain on a trolley excursion, put a head-line above the report of it, stating in flaring capitals, "It rained on their best coat-tails." Now a man wouldn't concede that any woman could successfully and consistently conduct a daily paper; yet no woman in this country—with brains enough to undertake the work at all—would head an article "Shirtsleeves Tabooed."

It seems by the article on "Shirts-waists Tabooed," that the Denver club women had established a sort of law that shirt-waists were not to be worn; and come to think of it, they were not—by the Denver women. But the beloved, indispensable, comfortable—I had almost said God-given—shirt-waist was

much in evidence just the same. We may not have known any better, but the visiting club women rejoiced and were glad both in and out of season in shirt-waists, although no American woman carried it so far as to attend a dinner party in one. The fact is, this Biennial was just like any other convention in the matter of dress. Everybody wore what she pleased and what she could afford; and the woman who had only one gown and that of the most modest sort, had just as good a time, and was thought of just as highly as she who had a magnificent wardrobe and a big Saratoga trunk. And perhaps she of the modest gown enjoyed seeing the diamonds and the Paris gowns of that other one far more than some of the better gowned ones did.

One thing is certain: that clothes do not make the woman in this club movement. The plain little woman whose garb is just about as noticeable as the feathers of a little brown sparrow is quite as apt to be the leading spirit in her club or town or State, as the one with reception gowns from Felix and tailor suits from Redfern. And yet why should anybody speak or think disparagingly of a woman because she follows Shakespeare's advice, "Costly thy raiment as thy purse can buy"? May there not be just as much uncharitableness among club women in this direction as in the other? Possibly a woman is abundantly able to wear a tailor gown that costs a hundred dollars or more, and her husband is more than particular about her dress. Some husbands are. Is it her duty to wear a cheaper gown because some of her club sisters must?

Here is a nice question in club ethics. One's husband may count his money by the hundred thousands or even the millions; both he and the children may be strenuous about the mother's clothes. What is her duty? Shall she go against the wishes of her own family, not to mention her personal taste in the matter, and studiously avoid wearing good gowns when she goes to the club—simply because there are women there whose husbands can scarcely afford the "ready made tailor" or the home-seamstress-made silk which they are wearing?

"Why don't you bring some of your fine gowns up here with you?" asked the country relatives of a rich woman. "We like to see them even if our meeting-house and rag-carpeted sitting-rooms don't seem just the place for them." A great many club women feel the same way. They like to see pretty clothes, even if they cannot wear them. And no woman really likes to feel that she isn't worth dressing for; or that she must be dressed down to.

So let us not worry over this matter of dress. It will right itself. If the woman who is apt to overdress—to whom dress is the main object in life—comes into the club, she will soon absorb a higher ideal and come to feel that there are greater purposes than are covered by the Paris fashion plates, and worthier subjects of contemplation and discussion than whether to ruffle or not to ruffle the skirt. And do these not need the club just as much as those that dwell in low places and perhaps long ago learned to combine high thinking with plain living?

O sisters, we none of us realize one another's needs. How do we know that she whom we have been envying as possessing everything heart could wish, is not the most miserable of women? How do we know that the quiet, insignificant woman in sparrow-like raiment has not exactly the help which we are silently craving? Let us come out of our shells and see.

THE CHILD OF THE WORLD.

By Edith Perry Estes.

OH come and see what a woman has done!"
A hush fell over the finished earth.
Despairing cries through creation rung;
The primal curse of mankind had birth.

"Oh come and see what a woman has done!"
A trembling nation in wonder cries,
When Esther, the queen, with her womanly arts,
Found favor sweet in a stern king's eyes.
"Oh! come and see what a woman has done!"
Philosophers turn from their books to say,
Centuries later, in kindly amaze,
As a mother might show, when her child's at play.

Uprears a structure which falls ere it grows
(Fit type of our erstwhile work and hope),
Or limns a picture with unskilled hands
Whose title must tell its infant scope.
But lo! the child of the world has grown
A comely woman, both true and sweet,
With God-given sceptre—a strength of soul—
And the world as of old at her willing feet.

The house she builds with her strong, free hands,
Abiding beauties inherent holds;
Some sweet eternal symmetries
Its airy lightness and grace enfolds.
The picture she makes with a skilful touch
Needs now no name to reveal intent,
And the shafts of her wit and her sovereign will
No interpreters need to explain what she meant.

That the arrow flew to its sure mark sped
The fleet stag knows in his dying hour,
And the doomed mortal who strays in the glen
Must own the strength of Diana's power.
"Oh! come and see what a woman has done!"
The angels of Heaven affrighted stand;
For a deed, alas! can the crueller be
Because it was done by a woman's hand.

For some woman, mistaking her new-found strength,
Destroyed, where her mission was to build,
And as she sped by the mountain way,
Left her household cruse by the well unfilled.
But her sister speeds to a happier fate,
Knowing the needs and the hopes that rise;
She hears them afar in the world's debate,
But reads them close in her children's eyes.

A larger motive than "me or mine"
Impels the spirit that opes her arms
As wide as the world at the cry of need
To comfort and help in a Life's alarms.
"Oh! come and see what a woman has done!"
The stars of the ages to be shall sing,
She keepeth her spirit—the world is hers—
A conquerer great in self-conquering.

THE RELATION OF LITERARY CLUBS TO CIVIC IMPROVEMENT.

By Sibyl B. Giddings.

(Read at the Denver Biennial, June, 1898.)

THE literary club sums up its reason for being in the one word culture, and in the correct use of that word lies the relation of the literary club to civic life.

It is a most assuring truth that much of woman's interest in civic affairs is the direct result of the quickened intelligence and knowledge gained in the club. The study of sanitary science leads to the forming of Health Protective Associations.

Demands for more books in the club instigate the founding of public libraries in our smaller towns. The study of country life leads invariably to the call for travelling libraries, and the town and country club for country women. A better knowledge of our public school system is gained, and the cause of education is benefited. Free kindergartens and public playgrounds are two practical results of the study of child nature; while town improvement work in the breadth of its motives and results is not only the practical application of the knowledge of sanitary science, but it is the outgrowth of all that is purest and noblest in literature and art.

We seem free to acknowledge our town relations, but not so ready to entertain them; and here we come short in the proper conception of culture. I once related to an old farmer, hoping to arouse his interest in his wife's behalf, my experiences at a club meeting, with its paper, discussion, social chat, and cup of tea. Much to my astonishment he replied, "Y-e-s, that's all very nice; but what are you going to do for me?" Charles Dudley Warner expresses the same sentiment in the words, "What is your culture to me? Of what use to me is your knowing Greek?" And the answer is found in his definition of culture:

"Culture is the blossom of knowledge; but it is a fruit blossom, the ornament of the age but the seed of the future."

We may each have in mind some club that makes its boast of a singleness of purpose—and that self-culture. Some clubs have died of it.

The chairman of the Biennial Committee has said, "We want the literary clubs to break out in civic committees." And we have yet to hear of a single case resulting fatally from the "striking in" of this civic rash. On the contrary, it is a most effective means in clearing the system of debilitating selfishness—a potent spring remedy particularly adapted to the needs of the club of sedentary habits.

Some clubs have but one excuse when the demand comes to utilize knowledge—self preparation—what Carlyle would call "Tying our shoe-strings," getting ready for the race. Delightful as the task may be, it might be wise to occasionally test the knot. And the opportunities that are given are scarcely exceeded by those of civic clubs themselves. Nothing shows so conclusively what may be done as the statement of what has been done. Limit of time and experience permit me to speak only of my own State, Minnesota. There were, at the time of our State meeting last October, eighty-five clubs belonging to the State Federation. These clubs, with the exception of two or three, are organized for study, and are, therefore, properly called literary clubs. Forty-one towns claim these clubs, and there is not a town of that number that has not become interested in its improvement. Much of the work has been done by the school children in obeying the injunctions of the "Do and Don't" placards. In fact, the first knowledge of the

efforts being made to better the conditions of our towns and villages has reached many towns through these placards, used in hundreds of our school rooms. Their good results have gone beyond our State, and they are now used in many other States. Some of the clubs do nothing more than pledge their members to keep their own premises as neat and beautiful as possible, and thus by their influence and example arouse those about them to greater zeal in this direction. Who can measure the result of this almost unconscious effort? The work becomes individualized, and the whole community is made to feel a sense of responsibility. The club woman usually has the weight of influence on her side and gets what she asks for. In this way the larger organizations of Improvement Leagues have been made possible, grafted from the literary clubs by what is known in horticulture as inarch—grafting by approach—when, the plant being fully established in its new growth, may be severed from the old.

The problem is not, what is there to do? but, shall we press these seeming duties on the literary clubs? In most of our smaller towns observation and experience prove that the women with time and ability for club work are members of clubs organized for some study. Despite the wail that comes from numerous quarters that women are going club crazy and joining more clubs than there are days in the week to attend them, there is a greater number who cannot and will not join more than one or two clubs. Our State Federations realize this, and urge the town improvement work upon the literary clubs.

We have tried to give a suggestion of what may be done by them for the town; another incentive to this work should be the effect upon the club itself.

By the added vigor of new work, every faculty in a club of diverse abilities is brought into action, and there is absolutely not a corner left in the hive for drones. The question is often asked, "Why, in a club of a hundred members, must twenty-five or thirty do all the work?" One answer can be given in citing the experience of a club of fifty members, thirty-nine of whom served on standing committees, while the remaining number was made up of the officers, press correspondent, a custodian of club papers, and a reserve force for special committees. Fifty of the members of that club worked.

Co-operation is thus found to be as important a fact in club economy as it is a great factor in social and political economies. The club that reaches out to larger aims, gives to its knowledge value thorough utility, crystalizes whatever work of reform it undertakes, and receives to itself in hundred-fold measure whatever it has given for the public good.

THE CLUB WOMAN IS

Not to pride herself on having dragged four clubs through a year, and to glory in being physically and mentally worn out because she has.

Not to say that she has done her duty this year and that she proposes to let those who shirked take the burden next.

Not to feel that she must regulate social and domestic conversation by club rules, and carry out a club program during every call.

Not to let the woman who is outside feel that she is a poor, unenlightened creature, hopelessly astern of the times.

To remember that the federated and unfederated club members are even as yet but a small proportion of the intelligent and educated and cultured and clever women of the world.

To be herself the club's best quiet advertiser in what she is, and not the metal horn to toot its virtues.—Zona Gale.

"THE IMPROVEMENT OF MRS. A."

Merion McIntosh Tyler, Hyde Park, Mass.

HAVE you called on Mrs. Abbott?" asked Martha Wells abruptly.

"Why, yes," stammered Rebecca Mervin, a soft color flushing her delicate cheek. "Haven't you had the honor?"

"No. And what's more, I don't intend to. I believe you are the only one on the hill who has called." And Martha settled her exceedingly neat skirts with a determined shake.

"But, Martha, Mrs. Abbott is a very agreeable woman, a college graduate, too."

"Indeed?" said Martha scornfully.

"They are very sensitive, and I do hope they may be kindly treated."

"Now, Rebecca, we all feel that you are too good to live with common every-day people, with your humanitarian ideas and 'noblesse oblige' schemes, but I'm thinking if you lived next door to Mrs. A. as I do, you'd—well, you wouldn't call."

"If I felt so bad about it, Martha, I'd call at once, and get it off my mind," said Rebecca, gently.

"That's just like you, Rebecca Mervin," said Martha hotly. "To think I'm cross because I feel I've done wrong. But it isn't that. I can't abide Mrs. A. She is so untidy. She stood out there yesterday while all the men were coming from the evening train, and such a wrapper as she had on—"

Rebecca laughed softly.

"You can laugh, but I felt so ashamed I just slammed my blinds to make the men look away."

"I suppose she never thought of the men or of her dress. She was very anxious about her little daughter yesterday."

"Oh, Rebecca!"

"I fear she is not burdened with much knowledge of house-keeping, but—"

"Nor blessed with it either," sneered Martha, "judging from appearances. I've seen that shiftless maid of hers going about for three days with the same rent in her apron. I was glad enough this morning when she tripped on it and tore the piece out."

"Oh, Martha!"

"Yes, I was. Then her boys; they fired off a toy cannon right under my window at four o'clock on the morning of the 17th."

"They are such manly little boys," said Rebecca.

"Rebecca Mervin, your everlasting goodness is tiresome," snapped Martha, "and I'm not the only one who despises the Abbotts. I went over to Margaret Jones' the first thing in the morning. She hadn't heard the cannon, but she said, 'You go ahead and complain, I'll stand back of you—'"

"Oh, Oh!" exclaimed Rebecca reproachfully, "I hope you didn't complain."

"Well," Martha hesitated, "I didn't because last week Lola Black sent her Ann with a note to Mrs. Abbott complaining that the boys kept her baby awake."

"Oh," sighed Rebecca, "if anybody else had written the note but Lola—"

"Yes, Lola can be mean, and I fear she was unkind for she was very angry."

"What did Mrs. Abbott say?"

"Ann said—'She never looked up after reading the note, but said softly—I hope to be able to control my boys without troubling the neighbors—but Ann said, 'The house looked like a farm yard; boys, and clothing and boxes and—'"

"Never mind what Ann said," interrupted Rebecca, "I am sorry for Mrs. Abbott."

"Well," said Martha, "if Jack Ainsley knew how they are using his furniture."

Rebecca rose quickly, a troubled look on her face.

"There, Rebecca, forgive me, I mean to let the Abbotts alone," said Martha.

It was a remarkably fine street that gently but steadily climbed Conbea Hill, pausing to get breath directly in front of Jack Ainsley's old place, which the Abbotts had rented furniture and all, and the lawn was getting untidy and now there were chickens in the back yard. The neighbors said,—"It is a shame to have such untidiness thrust right under our noses."

And—perhaps it was.

Nevertheless, Rebecca Mervin, the only college bred woman on the hill, before Mrs. A. came had called upon the strangers and as Janet Hill put it—, "She was hand in glove with Mrs. A. and her noisy boys."

Rebecca rarely gossiped, except to her husband, and after leaving Martha Wells she opened her heart to him concerning the Abbotts and the treatment they were receiving on Conbea Hill.

"I feel as if I had touched something disagreeable," she said shivering a little.

"I don't wonder," said John sympathizingly. "I believe the women are half ashamed of themselves and half envious too. I remember well how they treated you when you came back from college. They declared they wouldn't have a club if you were president."

"But I had known them all my life and didn't care much for their opinion, while Mrs. Abbott is a stranger."

"There's a letter for you, Rebecca," said John.

"From Miriam, too," said Rebecca joyfully. Then a little later,—"Do listen John," reading the letter.

"I hear the Abbotts have gone to Neatville. I know you'll be good to Laura, dear, she is so brave. They have lost everything and L. is going to do her own work while Alfred is looking for a position. She is lovely, but she doesn't know the first thing about housekeeping. She says she can learn that as well as Latin. I believe she can if you give her time. You are all such wonderful housekeepers in Neatville I hope you'll overlook her mistakes. Don't tell any one about the Abbotts. They want to help themselves."

"There, John, I knew it. What shall I do?" said Rebecca.

"It seems to me, wife, there is work here for your Mutual Improvement Club."

"That's just the thing," flashed his wife. "Oh, John, what a man you are!"

The next meeting of the Mutual Improvement Club promised to be interesting. Mysterious little notes summoned the members together and enjoined silence concerning the topic for discussion. Every woman on Conbea Hill, except Mrs. Abbott was present. The meeting had scarcely begun before it went suddenly into a committee of the whole. Women whose voices had never been heard before were talking as if inspired. The sense of the meeting was voiced at last, when Martha Wells rose, saying:

"I move and I think it is Rebecca Mervin's duty to invite Mrs. A. to join this club."

There was a sudden silence, but Martha continued resolutely,—

"You have called on her and you are the only college woman among us. If you get her to come we'll promise to improve her."

"Yes, we will, and I'll second the motion," cried the women.

But Rebecca Mervin had risen to the occasion and to her feet and was facing the club.

Some of the women said afterwards—"I trembled all over when she looked at me."

Rebecca, however, was calm and gracious, but before she sat down every woman on Conbea Hill knew Rebecca Mervin's opinion of her treatment of the stranger in their midst.

There were many burning cheeks and not a few wet eyes, but Lola Black was the only woman who ventured a protest. She got no farther than,— "You needn't think because you're a college graduate—" before she was silenced by the women near her.

In the midst of this confusion Janet Hill rose and said firmly, "I move that the subject of our next meeting be 'The Beauty of Neatness.'"

There was a tumult of "Ohs" and "Ahs" and "Why nots," in the midst of which Margaret Jones rose and said emphatically, "I second the motion."

In spite of a strong protest from Rebecca Mervin and a few faint words from other women the motion was carried. The meeting adjourned in such disorder that the sleepy loungers at the village store wondered mildly "what the Conbea Hill women were up to now."

Much curiosity was afloat concerning Rebecca's invitation to Mrs. Abbott's. Martha Wells reported—"I saw her go into the house two days ago, but although I sat at the window over an hour she never came out."

The women were talking at Lola Black's back gate.

"There she comes now," said Janet Hill. "I mean to ask her what Mrs. A. said."

"She won't tell" or "I wouldn't," "Hush," "She'll hear you," whispered the women anxiously as Rebecca approached with a kindly greeting for them all. Lola Black's baby was sick and Rebecca had come to take him home with her so that Lola might rest an hour or two.

"Well, Rebecca," said Martha Wells impulsively, "you are always doing something for some of us. Here we were planning to ask you about Mrs. A. and had forgotten all about Lola's baby while you—"

"Never mind me," said Rebecca, "Mrs. Abbott has promised to come to our next club meeting."

The women were so surprised that they forgot to ask a single question until Rebecca was out of sight carrying the little suffering child tenderly in her arms.

"Isn't she good?" said Lola, her eyes full of tears.

"Yes, and we deserved all she said of us at the club."

There never was a more delightful day than the one fixed upon for the last meeting of the Mutual Improvement Club. The very leaves on the trees were quivering with expectation, and the shadows darted hither and thither in the sunlight as if anxious to hasten the time.

By some mysterious domestic authority or persuasion the men of the several households had been induced to take an earlier train that morning, all except John Mervin, who found himself alone in the coach with Alfred Abbott, who was so eager to reach the city that he could not sit still.

The maids and mistresses left at home were skurrying up stairs and down, for such a shaking and sweeping and brushing as had employed the women on Conbea Hill for a week had never been known even in Neatville.

Rebecca Mervin alone was undisturbed by this upheaval. She had been called upon during the night, however, by one of the neighbors, and as the Abbott children were coming for dinner she spent the early hours of the morning resting.

At half past twelve by the clocks the work was all done, and the weary women had a good hour and a half in which to get ready for the meeting.

Such white collars, such spotless linen, such dustless garments and such dainty bonnets, gloves and boots had never been seen on Conbea Hill before the arrival of Mrs. A.

On each dressing table lay crisp sheets of paper, covered with painfully neat words, for it was part of the program that each member should contribute a short article.

Soon the starchy stillness was disturbed by a thrill of consternation: "Mrs. A. was not there" and "I don't see Rebecca Mervin either" added Janet Hill loud enough to reach the president's ear. Every woman there knew in her heart why she had taken such unusual pains with her toilet, and now Mrs. A. was not there—"It was too bad."

"I move that Janet Hill be appointed to wait upon Rebecca Mervin and inquire concerning her absence."

And Janet Hill was on her way down the street before the half hour struck.

The "minutes" of the last meeting were being read and approved mechanically when the door opened and Janet Hill entered. Every woman sprang to her feet and their crisp papers received wrinkles from which they never recovered—for Janet Hill's face was as white as her collar, and she was wringing her hands and sobbing big tearless sobs, which tightened the throats and filled the eyes of all the women. A motherly little woman took Janet's head on her bosom, saying soothingly, "There dear, there dear, it'll soon be over. You just wait; you just wait."

But Martha Wells couldn't wait, but said, "Tell us what's the matter Janet Hill, just as quick as you can."

Janet heard the commanding voice and obeyed brokenly and in gasps, "We've killed her. We've killed poor Mrs. Abbott. They've sent for a specialist. Mr. Abbott's broken hearted. Dr. Retrax says we women did it by our unkindness. She tried to do her own work, and we were unkind."

"I knew it," said Martha Wells, her strong voice tender with emotion, "but I had said so much and I do hate shiftlessness, but I felt I was wrong before Rebecca told us."

"So did I," "and I," "and I," sobbed the women.

"We've been living so long alone. We didn't know how to meet strangers. Rebecca's goodness made us angry, so we found fault with everything she did and those dear children. And now we've killed her Dr. Retrax says."

"I mean to find out for myself what's the matter with Mrs. Abbott."

And Martha Wells marched straight to Rebecca Mervin's house, followed by the Conbea Hill women, who hushed their sobs when they passed the Abbott house.

Rebecca told them—"that Mrs. Abbott was very ill; that the boys were to stay with her; a specialist had come from Boston, and Dr. Retrax had taken the little daughter home with him."

"Do you think we women helped to make her sick?" whimpered Janet Hill.

Rebecca did not answer; she looked at the anxious faces of the women and said softly, "We have sometimes forgotten in Neatville that 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness, not before it.'"

The lawns on Conbea Hill were never so untidy as they were that summer.

Mrs. Abbott's poor little maid was taught more in one week than it was possible for her to learn in years.

The housework was all done for her, however by deft and dainty hands, but none except Rebecca ventured into the darkened chamber where Laura Abbott wrestled with death, with the same unflinching courage she had shown when undertaking to care for her own family alone.

The Conbea Hill women are hoping to have a new club this fall if Rebecca Mervin will promise to be their president.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT WORDS.

By Alice M. Woods.

THESE has been of late considerable discussion in English papers as to which one of the many grammatical mistakes in which we all occasionally indulge is of most frequent occurrence. The late James Payn gave it as his opinion that more errors are made in the use of different to and different from than in any other expression; while Maurice Thompson lays down the infallible rule that no one who puts the accent on the second syllable of exquisite can advance any claim to the possession of literary culture.

That most admirable of essayists, Agnes Repplier, in a witty paper on "Esoteric Economies," contends that each one has his pet method of saving. One accumulates bits of string and wrapping paper, while another preserves odd buttons. Some feel a glow of virtuous endeavor when they have succeeded in making one match light three gas jets. In like manner, I fancy, each one has his pet solecism in grammar, endeared by long usage, and, on the contrary, has his teeth set particularly on edge by some special verbal error, the use of which he vehemently repudiates. Perhaps, in the use of words, as in other things, we are only too apt to

"Compound for sins we are inclined to
By damning those we have no mind to."

If I were asked to name the most frequent mistake in the use of words, I should unhesitatingly aver that the most abused word in our language is "only." It is really a subject of astonishment to note the number of times in which the word is incorrectly used in each issue of some of our best magazines. Besant seldom, if ever, uses it correctly; in fact, he misuses it in more original ways than any other writer I know. The great Howells says: "I only met him once." In a magazine story Margaret Deland uses the word correctly when she says, "which occupied only a few months of the year." That this happy example was the inspiration of a moment rather than the habit of a lifetime is inferred from two incorrect expressions that occur later on in the same story: "There were rooms only on one side of the entry," and, "she had only worn it once since Amanda made it." Pages might be taken up with examples of this sort from the works of our best authors.

Before the intricacies of "should" and "would" I bow in abject humility. Truly, these be fearsome words. Before them fall ignominiously some of the greatest masters of English prose. I once knew a school superintendent who allowed no text-book on grammar to be used in all the broad domain in which he ruled. He took the position that the only reliable guide to the correct use of words is the ear. To this conclusion I cannot wholly assent; it is well to be able to give a reason for the faith that is in one. But the strongest argument in favor of the ear as an authority lies in the use of should and would. It would be almost impossible to formulate a set of rules that would cover their numerous eccentricities.

How beautiful a work of art is a well turned sentence. A sentence not too long nor yet too short; one in which the component parts are so well chosen and so deftly placed that the result is a whole as subtly harmonious as a strain of delicious music, a delight to the cultivated ear, a treasure to the appreciative intellect. Too little attention is paid at the present time to the formation of what may be termed a good style in writing. Some years ago parents and teachers used to in-

sist upon the systematic study of Addison, Chesterfield, or Wordsworth as an aid towards the formation of a correct style. A return to the rotund, oratorical manner of Johnsonian English would not be desirable; we have now masterly essayists and writers in every style whose works are as well worth attention as were earlier prose masters.

It would seem that in a language so rich and felicitous as our own, a recourse to foreign phrases would be unnecessary. Still, it must be admitted that there are cases in which another language supplies to the idea a delicacy of shading impossible to translate. But foreign tongues need careful handling or the effect will be the same as that of a painted and beribboned snow-shovel as a parlor ornament. In a small town lived an only paper whose editor displayed great agility in the use of French terms. The result was in some cases deliciously funny. One evening this editor went to a play and enjoyed it greatly. Next morning he referred to it enthusiastically as a par example of a show, whereupon a long-suffering public arose and told him he must either study French or confine himself to the vernacular.

A mistake of frequent occurrence is made in alluding to a person as having been born with a given as well as a surname. This error is common in our best periodicals. A recent magazine of the better sort spoke of one of Henry Ward Beecher's daughters as nee Hattie Beecher. Born a Beecher she certainly was, but she was no more born Hattie than she was born Sarah Jane or Nebuchadnezzar.

Not long since the following advertisement adorned the columns of a local paper: "Use one package of Panama coffee and you will use no other." It fascinated me. Each morning I looked for it and gloated over it. What joy it would be to tell the grocer that, though I had often read of the pernicious effects of continued coffee drinking, it was yet a surprise to learn that fatal results could follow so soon. Or to advise him, in common justice to the public, to close his grocery and open a drug store; or inquire confidentially what there was about Panama coffee to engender on the mind of the purchaser of one package a hatred so bitter that he would never buy another.

This advertisement brings to mind a notice conspicuously posted in the Philadelphia street-cars during the Centennial: "Passengers are requested to get on and off these cars as much as possible at the crossings." I often shudder to think what would have happened if I had obeyed my almost uncontrollable impulse to stop the car at the next crossing and get off and on as much as possible. But a woman cannot do such things. In fact, no woman has any business with a sense of the humorous unless she has a countenance of bovine impassiveness behind which to conceal it. But that prince of practical jokers, Travers, could have done it. One can imagine the look of injured innocence that would have overspread his countenance if the conductor had attempted to interfere with his pastime, and the delicious stutter with which he would have called attention to the company's directions, which he was faithfully carrying out.

There are some time-honored verbal errors so deeply enshrined in the public heart that if their use were forbidden it might be regarded almost in the light of a national calamity. In protesting against them one simply poses as a hateful iconoclast, beside having his labor for his pains.

Did you ever read a description of a G. A. R. reunion in which the battle-scarred heroes were not described as "old veterans"? To mention them merely as veterans would be to eliminate from the scene half its pathos. We may conceive of a veteran as a gallant, debonaire man in the prime of life and health. He wears with equal grace several medals and a camellia, and walks with a military stride. But an old veteran

must of necessity be an object to excite compassionate interest, the hero of a score of battles, maimed, halt, with at least a bullet or two in the recesses of his being, and perhaps a wooden leg in evidence. However, when the present war is over, a judicious bestowal of terms may relegate the old veteran to the Civil War, while the young veteran is supposed to have earned distinction before El Caney or Santiago.

It must have been a judicious disapproval of the undue dynamic force of old veterans that led to the invention of the expression, new novelties. I felt quite relieved when I first saw this expression in a holiday advertisement. It seemed as if our language had recovered its normal balance. What an immense advantage a store that makes a specialty of new novelties has over a firm that confines its trade to simple novelties!

In small towns the expression, "She's a Baptist lady" is often heard, while "She is a Congregationalist," or "She is an Episcopalian," serves to distinguish women of other denominations. Why this insistence on the gentility of the women of this particular persuasion? As nearly as can be ascertained, the term is accounted for by syllable reasons. The ear in one cases misses the sonorous polysyllables that distinguish the other two, and adds another word to supply deficiencies.

While we are on the subject, it might be well to consider how much tautology masquerades in the garb of piety. There are outworn shibboleths with which some interlard their discourse, thereby feeling that they may justly lay claim to superior mental gifts. A certain glibness in the use of "from whence," "rise up," "follow after," "enter in," and similar redundancies is oftentimes the principal stock in trade of persons whom Talmage aptly designates "prayer-meeting killers." If many discourses were, mathematically speaking, reduced to their simplest terms, the result would be fully as effective and much more pleasing.

A clergyman, himself a man of nice discrimination in the use of words, once said to me plaintively:—"I am generally a meek and long-suffering man, but there is one word that tries my patience to the utmost limit, and that is 'memoranda.' Everyone"—and he grew quite heated with a sense of his wrongs—"everyone says, 'I'll make a memoranda of it.'"

"That's nothing," I interrupted vehemently, "to my sufferings under 'strata.' Did you ever"—I put the question fairly to him—"see the word 'stratum' in print outside a scientific article?" He was obliged to admit that he never had; neither had he happened to find in this omission a personal grievance as I had. I continued: "I have heard well-read people refer to 'gardeens,' 'cupaloes,' and 'soopleness,' and my tranquility of mind has not been disturbed. I have a bosom friend who 'stomps' her feet to warm them, and I do not flinch. With equanimity I can hear a 'tremulo' singer in a house 'het' by a furnace. I can attend a 'koarchus' Masonic installation with a mind soothed and elevated by the beautiful ritual. I know a man who habitually says 'togather' and continues high in my esteem, but when I hear one say 'that strata of society,' I feel like one of Mrs. Linn Linton's wild women, and peace of mind becomes a hollow mockery."

I cannot better draw to a focus the scattered threads of my discourse than by pointing a moral, and that moral is, "don't teach." If there is one thing fitted to develop what Howells calls the "retail mind of woman," it is teaching. To exaggerate the importance of trifles is one branch of a teacher's business. Exactitude becomes pettiness. A mispronounced word is not a moral error; a lapse in grammar is not a mortal sin. The woman who lectures to your club on "Our Insidious Foes" may have many bright and helpful ideas. What would be the value of educating a musician to that finical point where he

would discover a false note in the thunders of Niagara, or a discord in the music of the spheres? A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, especially dangerous to one's peace of mind. How wretched would be that artist who failed to enjoy a sunset's glory because one roseate cloud was out of drawing! Better never to have seen the rules of Lindley Murray than to let their odious presence come between you and even Shakespeare's masterpieces.

How little did I think when, as a teacher, I wrestled faithfully to impress upon heedless youth the vital importance of correctly using "only" and "not only," or the terrible results that would ensue if "which" should be used instead of "that" after a superlative, that these wretched rules would cling to me like a vampire through the remainder of my life, destroying its graceful amenities and battenning upon its fondest hopes! For many long years I have not opened a grammar, but the verbs bid, dare, feel, hear, and the like, still rise before me in ghastly distinctness and shriek, "This way madness lies."

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT.

Conducted by Mrs. Viola Price Franklin.

The purpose of this department is to bring the women's clubs into closer touch with university extension. Listening to the discussion on club methods at the Biennial, I was more than ever impressed with the great need of more systematic work. There are many clubs eager to avail themselves of these benefits, if they only knew how to remove the lions in the way. What the different universities offer to women's clubs will be given from time to time. In this issue the work of the University of Chicago is presented.

Speaking of the benefits of university extension to women's clubs, Dr. Harper, President of the University of Chicago, says:

The extension department of the university aims to bring the benefits of university study and university methods to three classes of people, all of whom are well represented in the various clubs. It seeks to help first, those who have been prevented for any reason from entering upon a university course in a regular way and who are yet ambitious to pursue such a course; second, those who have begun a course of college training but have not been able to complete it; and third, those who are graduates of colleges and universities and who are anxious to keep their interest fresh and their ideas accurate in the various departments of higher study and investigation.

The greatest benefit which the extension work offers to any one of these classes is the opportunity to systematize effort. We are, all of us, after we pass out from the regular school routine, prone to do our work in a more or less fragmentary way; but such work is of little lasting value. A little study of history today, a dipping into literature tomorrow, the hearing of a lecture on science the next day, may be interesting, but it has very little educational worth. Fragmentary knowledge is no knowledge. Systematic study is the only valuable study. Isolated facts are never remembered; only related ideas are a permanent possession.

Few people have learned how to study. For that reason we need leaders trained in their specialties, who have passed over the road before their students and who are able to point them the way. Most people lose time in their work for want of guidance into systematic study. One can waste ten hours doing a thing poorly which he might have done well in one hour under wise direction. I have known clubs to work five years in a happy-go-lucky style, and find themselves not much wiser at the end of the period. One year systematically employed would have yielded a substantial gain.

The university is able through its extension department to offer to the clubs the presence and inspiration of leaders who are specialists in their departments, and who bring to the class the results of the most recent research in their subjects. It offers an opportunity for questions, and an explicit leading and guiding impossible in individual study; and it offers a course of study definite and systematic, not the least value of which is the training it gives in the formation and strengthening of the best habits of study.

It is just such leadership and guidance as this which, I am sure, all will recognize as one great need of our study clubs.

Dr. Edmund J. James, Director University Extension, the University of Chicago, adds for the benefit of The Club Woman: From its very beginning the university extension movement has looked to the study clubs for sympathy and for help. It is most fitting that they should be the best friends and the firmest allies of the university extension work, since in nearly all respects the aims and purposes of the two are identical. One of the aims of the study club, I take it, and by no means the least important, is the uplifting of the entire community in which it is placed, and in which it is often the most potent leaven. The club wants, not only to bring culture to its individual members, but to give some of its benefits to its neighbors. The extension work affords an opportunity for making this benefit definite and tangible. The study club, friend of the extension work, and of the people of the community, may bring the two together as no other agency can. One course of extension lectures so arranged and fostered may bring to an entire community an uplift which will be real and enduring.

The method by which university extension accomplishes its work of moulding and fashioning the conversation and action of a community is most interesting. The extension lecturer who recognizes and utilizes his opportunities puts the whole community, so to speak, at school for the time being. Everybody reads, more or less, upon the subject of the lecture, the few who study carefully before and after the exercises talk of their work and study to every one they meet, and soon a debate starts up and continues to grow until the people are as much excited over the relative merits of Queen Elizabeth and Cromwell as they were a little while before over the last church quarrel or village scandal.

In the meantime, there is such a demand for the standard histories of England that the local bookseller is perhaps quite unable to furnish sufficient copies. As a result of the whole matter the town becomes painfully conscious that it has no public library and a movement is immediately set on foot to secure this most necessary public improvement. In the meantime the whole intellectual and social life of the community has moved up to a higher plane, and thenceforth every good cause is better supported than before.

I believe I was asked to say a word about the benefits of university extension to the clubs themselves, but I know of no greater benefit which the university extension can confer upon the clubs, nor, on the other hand, do I know of any greater benefit which the clubs can confer upon the extension work, than aid in solving this, their common problem.

THE CLUB PROGRAM.

By the Secretary of the Lecture Study Department.

One of the chief difficulties which women's clubs have encountered in their effort to do literary work of a commendable grade has been encountered in the arrangement of the club programs. While it may not be a difficult matter to decide upon the study of Modern Fiction or of Spanish History and

Literature, in preference to the literature of the Elizabethan period, or Russian History, yet this decision once reached, it is not an easy matter to prepare a program which will have educational value. Not many clubs have in their own membership specialists who can both seize upon the central and important points in a course of study, and give specific directions to the best available literature upon the subject chosen.

It is therefore with satisfaction that we call the attention of club women to the fact that the University of Chicago, through its extension division, after many appeals from leaders of women's clubs, has decided to furnish such assistance to clubs as will enable them to pursue systematic courses of study throughout the year under the leadership of a specialist. The plan as finally outlined contemplates not only the arrangement of a skeleton program, but an outline in full of the work which the club members are expected to do, or at least may do. This outline contains not only topics for club papers but likewise specific references to the literature members should read in order to secure the best results from their work. The club leaders, or those who are to prepare papers, are given the privilege of corresponding with the university instructor. Several clubs have hastened to avail themselves of this opportunity, and have called upon the university to arrange their programs for them for the coming year.

Among its club-study programs the University of Chicago offers a very carefully prepared course in the study of fiction. The following are the topics which it takes up, giving full bibliographies, hints for study, suggestions for programs, topics for discussion and helps for papers in connection with each subject:

1. Nature and Classification of Fiction.
2. Our Earliest Story—Literature: Beowulf.
3. Character Study in Chaucer.
4. Elizabethan Fiction—"Arcadia."
5. Early Realism—"Tom Jones."
6. Realism in Fiction.
7. The Drawing Room Novel. Jane Austen.
8. Later Realists of this Type.—W. D. Howells' "Rise of Silas Lapham."
9. Henry James, "The Liar."
10. Early Romanticism. Horace Walpole—"The Castle of Otranto."
11. The Romantic Historical Novel. Sir Walter Scott—"Quentin Durward."
12. The Romantic Novel in America. J. F. Cooper—"The Spy."
13. A Great French Writer of the Romantic Period—Balzac.
14. Great Mid-century English Novelists: (1) Thackeray—"The Newcomes."
15. (2) George Eliot—"The Spanish Gypsy."
16. (3) Nathaniel Hawthorne—"The Scarlet Letter."
17. Short Story Artists: Edgar A. Poe.
18. Short Story Artists: Nathaniel Hawthorne.
19. Short Story Artists: Guy de Maupassant.
20. Short Story Artists: Mary E. Wilkins.
21. Short Story Artists: Ruth McEnery Stuart.
22. Extreme Realism: Zola.
23. Extreme Realism in England: Hardy.
24. Modern Tendencies in Fiction.

If preferred any one of the following may be substituted for any one of the above:

George Meredith, R. L. Stevenson, J. M. Barrie, Crockett, Mrs. Ward, Hall Caine, Cable.

Send us your next season's program as soon as it is ready.

OPEN PARLIAMENT.

Conducted by Mrs. Edward S. Osgood.

Editor Open Parliament:

In "The Club Woman" of December, p. 79, in the article "An Open Parliament," we are told "it takes a unanimous vote to transact business other than that mentioned in the call." In several manuals I have seen this would take but a two-thirds vote, that is, if it is the same as "suspending rules," as I take it. Am I right?

Not quite. Special rules and special meetings are not the same. Special rules may be suspended by less than a unanimous vote only when the rules themselves provide for the vote on suspension. There can be, under general parliamentary law, no rule stated for the motion, since each organization must itself decide if its rules shall be suspended and upon what vote.

Since, however, the organization is greater than its own laws, so to speak, by unanimous consent rules can be temporarily set aside.

Special meetings are quite another matter. A special meeting is for an emergency; it is better to wait for the regular meeting if possible. When an emergency rises which demands a special meeting, the purpose for which the meeting is called must be stated in the call, and unless all the members are present and unanimous consent be given, no other business of any importance can be transacted.

At a called meeting the secretary was about to read the minutes of the last regular meeting, but was stopped by a point of order raised from the floor. The secretary then asked the privilege, and on motion it was granted. Was it right? Is it not a bad precedent? Had there been one opposing vote could it have been done?

What every one wishes is "right" from a parliamentary point of view. Precedent should never be binding when found to work hardship. Circumstances vary. A high official lost his position because he "had not the sense to know when to disobey orders." A club must distinguish carefully between parliamentary law and precedent.

One opposing vote would have prevented. Never let a thing go that you really object to, because you had not the courage of your convictions, or fear to be thought unamiable. Better be right than be president. It is much better to speak out in meeting and then gracefully yield to the will of the majority than to sit silently by and afterwards criticise.

Our Federation meets semi-annually. These regular meetings allow each local club three delegates; this gives equal representation. There are five officers in the Federation, no two elected from the same club. Do these officers have a vote at the regular meetings? We know the president would not vote on motions unless there was a tie, but as the other officers get their education from the local club to which they belong, and there are not enough to have an officer in each club, it seems to some unfair that they should vote. If these officers can vote, can they not (excepting the president) make and second motions?

Justice, or fairness, is a relative term. The greatest good of the greatest number is the greatest good of all in the end.

If your Federation practices rotation in office, each club will have its turn. The general officers, of course, should vote. The president may always vote, but usually does not except in case of a tie. The president cannot make motions; all other officers can.

Mrs. Lowe, in her inaugural address, said: "I am no longer a Georgia woman. I belong to the entire Federation." The officers really do belong to the entire Federation. In their votes and influence they are not true to their trust if they do not consider the general welfare of primary importance. Therefore the question of undue representation disposes of itself.

In the General Federation it is a rule that no two of the general officers shall come from the same State, and the nominating committee has ruled for several years that no two members of the Board shall be from the same State. In State Federations it is customary to select but one officer from a town.

In answer to the many private queries, the editor of this department replies that all questions must be answered through the Open Parliament or treated as "private rulings" at regular rates. Do not hesitate to ask questions. If more are sent than can be answered in the space allotted they will be placed on file and answered in the order they are received. The thanks of this department are extended for cordial words of encouragement and appreciation.

Address all communications for this department to Mrs. E. S. Osgood, 48 Winter Street, Portland, Me. Wherever a constitutional point is involved, send a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. All correspondence strictly confidential. To insure an answer in the next issue of *The Club Woman* communications should be sent by the 15th.

BOOKS.

ONE of the most important books of the day, so far as clubs and club women are concerned, is Mrs. Croly's "History of the Woman's Club Movement in America," which is now ready, and which represents the culmination of the life-work of this "mother of clubs." She has dedicated the book "to the twentieth-century woman, by one who has seen and shared in the struggles, hopes and aspirations of the nineteenth century"; and it will prove an invaluable aid to the twentieth-century woman as marking the steps of the upward progress of womankind during the last half of the present century. It is difficult for the younger women in club life to-day to realize what it meant to start a woman's club forty or even twenty-five years ago. To-day the club is a popular thing. The average husband desires to have his wife belong to a club, and the average newspaper gives valuable space to the consideration of club matters and club discussions. But in those early days it was taken as an evidence of "strong-mindedness" and almost outside the pale of respectability to belong to a club. Husbands used to positively forbid it, and the newspapers only referred to the Woman's Club in the funny columns, where the new movement brought the weary paragrapher a welcome change from the standard mother-in-law joke. All that the first organizers of clubs were obliged to undergo in the way of contumely and scorn will never be known, but Mrs. Croly's "History" shows something of what the conditions were, and it preserves the names of those who early entered the field to develop a movement which has since become one of the greatest forces of the age.

Starting out with the "Beginnings of Organization," she takes up first religious organizations—that being the only form of such work tolerated from women early in the nineteenth century. The first picture in the book (there are over seven hundred) is of Elizabeth Seton, who started the first order of "Sisters of Charity" in America, opening a convent school in Emmettsburg, Md., in 1809. The growth of Missionary Boards, Bible Societies, Charitable Societies and Auxiliaries is carefully traced, and then the period of "moral awakening," during which Emma Willard, Mary Lyon and other brave leaders started the seminaries which paved the way to the women's colleges of to-day.

Under the chapter heading of "Seed Sowers," Mrs. Croly tells of the beginning of Sorosis in 1868 and why that famous club was started. The New England Woman's Club, which was organized at almost the same time, follows. As study clubs, "light seekers," she cites Friends in Council of Quincy, Illinois, which began as a reading class in 1866, and was formally organized in February, 1869. The Fortnightly of Chicago (1873), the Chicago Woman's Club (1876), the Civic Club of Philadelphia and Working Girls' Clubs follow, and then comes a complete history of the General Federation of Women's Clubs from the first call by Sorosis in March, 1889, to the past year. Over one hundred pages are given to this feature alone. "Foreign Clubs" gives the history of those clubs in other countries that belong to the G. F. W. C., after which the story of State Federations and the individual clubs composing follow in alphabetical order. There are 1184 pages in this history; the type is large and clear, and the pictures of prominent women, club houses, club insignia and club flowers are finely executed.

It is a book which every club woman ought to have, while to club houses and libraries it is indispensable. The book is sold by subscription and there should be some live woman in every club to handle subscriptions. The price is \$5, and the book is worth it. Henry G. Allen & Co., 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, are the publishers.

"John Harvey" is a tale of the twentieth century, something like the "Looking Backward" type, and yet there is much in it that is new. The scene is located in Colorado, the first chapter dealing with the top of Pike's Peak, where an immense statue of "John Harvey" has been raised. The latter was a man possessed of boundless wealth and progressive ideas and he had combined the Western States into a Nationality, subject to the United States, and yet sufficient unto itself; and he had founded "Neuropolis," the capital, which was situated somewhere near Denver. This city was a model of harmony in architecture as well as government. The people were contented and happy, working only a few hours a day, up to forty-five, and receiving a stipulated sum out of the common treasury. The author supposes himself to be—for it is written in the first person—a young English Lord, traveling incognito for the purpose of studying sociological conditions in America. Naturally he finds these at their best in Neuropolis and remains there. He becomes interested in a beautiful young woman whom he first sees and hears on the operatic stage, where she has gone at an hour's notice to take the place of a celebrated prima donna who fails to appear,—after the manner of some prima donnas in this nineteenth century. There is a very intricate plot, carefully elaborated, and a genuine surprise awaits the reader who becomes interested in the love affairs of the hero and heroine. It is not primarily a love story, however. "John Harvey" is written as a study of national and sociological problems of to-day and their possible outcome. The sociological student, as well as all who are interested in the problems which stare the twentieth century in the face, should read "John Harvey."

The book is well printed and prettily bound. It is published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

If you want one of the best stories of the year, read "The Gray House of the Quarries," written by Mary Harriott Norris and published by Lamson, Wolfe & Co., Boston. It combines all the essentials of a good novel. It is well written, with a singular charm of "atmosphere;" it has sufficient of incident and plot to hold increasing interest to the end, and it pictures a new locality and life in fiction,—that of the Dutch settlers in the Catskill region. Moreover it is long enough to require more than one sitting, and is just the book to occupy several autumn evenings before an open wood fire. The book has individuality and strength, and is in every way "worth while." It is beautifully printed and bound, like all that comes from the house of Lamson, Wolfe & Co.

Another new book from this firm is "A Man-at-Arms," by Clinton Scollard, who is better known as a poet of high order than a novelist. "A Man-at-Arms" is a romance of the days of Visconti, "the great viper" of Italy. It is historical in the same sense that "An Enemy to the King" and "A Prisoner of Zenda" are so; that is, it deals with historical events of that time only so far as they furnish plots and counterplots for a thrilling story. It is doubtful, however, if we should ever get so lively a sense of color and of actual life in those days, were it not for these stories. Mr. Scollard has been eminently successful with his first attempt in this direction. "A Man-at-Arms" is absorbingly entertaining, full of action and thoroughly interesting from cover to cover. Clubs studying the history of Italy would do well to add this to their supplementary reading list.

"The King's Jackal," by Richard Harding Davis, published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, is another story in the same romantically adventurous line, although far more modern in action and treatment, as it is in date. Mr. Davis has traveled everywhere, and "The King's Jackal" is only another proof that he is just as much at home in Morocco as on the battlefields of Cuba or in the drawing rooms of New York. His novels are always favorites with women—and women now form the great reading public. "The King's Jackal" is not the best story Mr. Davis ever wrote, but it has a fascination for readers of all classes, and is especially valuable as a picture of life in Tangiers.

"Life is Life," by "Zack," is a collection of short stories which show the combined influence of Beatrice Harraden and Marie Correlli; yet the author possesses a virility which proves that she would have written strongly and well had she never heard of either of those examples of modern literary genius. She who signs herself "Zack," and whose first volume of stories recently published in London received great praise from critics of high degree, is Miss Gwendoline Keats, a very young woman, we are told. She writes mostly Cornish tales. They are extremely well-told tales, too, although one lays the book down with a sigh over so much misdirected energy. After all, why? Perhaps because she is so very young, and time will cure that. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, are her American publishers.

Will State secretaries and State presidents kindly forward The Club Woman a copy of their printed Federation lists of clubs for 1898? Ohio, Wisconsin, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Maine have already done so. The editor would like a complete file.

THE LOWELL "CLUB."

May Ellis Nichols, Brooklyn, N. Y.

HIS mother had gone to the Lowell club
One beautiful April day,
While little Ned and a neighbor's boy
Were out in the yard at play.

But a war cloud rose in the sunny air—
It matters not how or why—
'Tis a simple fact that they fought tooth and nail,
Till wee Ned began to cry.

At last, as he stopped to take breath, he said:
"I'll tell you, Dick Brown, what I'll do,
I'll have mother bring the Lowell club home,
And then if I won't wallop you!"

THE BELOVED POET.

The Whittier Home Association of Amesbury, Mass., organized in January, 1898, held its first midsummer meeting on June 28th at the home, where for nearly fifty years the poet lived and wrote. Nearly one hundred members of the association with invited guests filled the rooms so full of memories of Whittier and the family to whom he was a devoted son and brother. The parlor, with its beautiful pictures of the mother and sister, "Where my mother's picture hangs is my home," the desk on which he penned the immortal poem of "Snow Bound," the old fire frame with its andirons, before whose drift-wood fire he had so often mused, these held the attention of the guests. Then came the central room, the dining room, with its fine engraving of Lincoln over the mantel, and that of Joseph Sturge on the opposite wall.

"The very gentlest of all human natures
He joined to courage strong;
And love outreaching unto all God's creatures,
With sturdy hate of wrong,"

wrote Whittier of him, his constant friend. In this room, too, is the picture of Mrs. Barbara Fritchie, with pieces of her dress, the engraving of the iceberg sent by Dr. Kane to Miss Whittier, the table around which had been entertained with simple and gracious hospitality so many noted people.

Opening from this are two small rooms, where in the early years the poet and his mother slept, the devoted son always watching over the mother with the deepest tenderness. She was a strong and lovely character, and he resembled her in feature and expression. Then came for the guests a visit to the "Garden room," the study and sitting room of Whittier; with hardly an exception, even to the papers and fittings on the desk, this is as he had left it. There is the open grate, the chair by the window, looking out upon the lovely old-fashioned garden full of trees and shrubs, that the poet had planted, whose growth he had never wearied of watching; the old table near by with its inky marks showing where the pen which had worked so mightily for human brotherhood had often rested; the bookcase filled with books just within his reach; the furniture covered with brown, worn with use; the quiet, small figured carpet, are all the same that he used for years in this, his sitting room. Upon the wall hang the pictures of Longfellow, Emerson, and Starr King, "Priest of Freedom," Garrison, and Celia Thaxter, with whom in this room the poet had often held converse. The pressed gentians from Lucy Larcom, the fam-

ily's dear friend, still hang as he wrote of them, "On my northern window-pane," while on the desk stands the sprig of heather of which he wrote in the poem on Burns:

"No more these simple flowers belong
To Scottish maid and lover,
Sown in the common soil of song
They bloom the wild world over.

In smiles and tears, in sun and showers,
The minstrel and the heather,
The deathless singer, and the flowers
He sang of life together."

In the closet hang the hat and coat with its fur collar with which in late years his friends associated his tall, erect form. We go up the stairs covered with the carpet that he selected, and find the bedroom absolutely as he used it; the candlestick upon the table, the picture that he tacked upon the wall, that of Milton on the mantel, of his mother framed quaintly in amaranths and autumn leaves at his bedside. Behind the door stand the simple bookshelves full of books; again the outlook is upon the garden. One feels that the house is truly one of Longfellow's "Haunted Houses," with such close personal connection with the poet that it seems almost as if the tall, dignified figure might be seen moving about the low rooms so full of restful simplicity.

The meeting was informal, as suited the place. Miss Mary Esther Carter of Amesbury, for long years an intimate and dear friend of the Whittier family, now over eighty years of age, a vice-president of the association, gave in simple and eloquent words some of her memories of the house and of the many noted men and women whom she had met in it from time to time. Of Sumner, "whose stately presence filled the rooms"; of Emerson, "so genial, so tender and courteous to the mother"; of the Cary sisters, Starr King, Bayard Taylor (a frequent visitor), Gail Hamilton, with her bright sallies of wit, and Celia Thaxter, with her hearty and infectious laugh. The poet's grandniece, Miss Elizabeth Whittier Patten of Merrimac, then sang with much expression "The Maid of Dundee."

Letters of regret from associate members who were unable to be present were then read, including a most interesting one from Senator Hoar, one from Mrs. Logan and from Mr. Fisher, the last surviving member of the Anti-Slavery Society. Later came the reading of three characteristic letters to Mr. Whittier, written during the Civil war by Lydia Maria Child, William Lloyd Garrison and Charles Sumner. These letters, valuable and never published, were presented to the association by Mrs. John Hume of Amesbury, and are to be hung later in the rooms of the house.

The letter from Sumner is in part as follows:

Senate Chamber, April 9, 1866.

Dear Whittier: I never miss anything you write, and have just read your "Snow Bound." It is beautiful. * * * * *

* * You will enjoy our triumph in the passage of the civil rights bill. It is a great bill. But was there ever a country so troubled as ours? Had the President exercised a little discretion and put himself in harmony with Congress, all our difficult questions would have been settled easily and the Declaration of Independence would have become a living word. O! great day! Could we see this accomplished then would our country be bright and beauteous, fairest of the fair!

In the letter of Lydia Maria Child, written in 1863, longer and throughout of the greatest interest, she pays a touching

tribute to the parents of Colonel Shaw: "The parents of Colonel Robert G. Shaw are the oldest, the dearest and the best friends of my life. His death cut through my heart like a dagger so intense was my sympathy for their sorrow. But they are wonderfully sustained in this great affliction * * * His father wrote to me:

"Our darling son, our hero, has received the most fitting burial possible. We would not have it otherwise if we could. If a wish of ours would do it, we would not remove him from those who loved him so devotedly, for whom he gave up his life.' There are few things in ancient or modern history more morally sublime than that."

Miss Elizabeth Hume of Amesbury then gave an interesting paper on the poet's summer visits to Ossipee, N. H., showing how light hearted and cheery he was to those who knew him best, concluding with a poem of Rev. William Gannett's and the incidents which gave rise to Whittier's poem, "The Searchers for the Waterfall."

The company then adjourned to the garden, where a collation was served and a social hour enjoyed. Mrs. Pickard of Boston, the poet's niece, has been very generous in her assistance and interest, and the house is open to visitors on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays of each week.

A limited number of Amesbury ladies compose the active members, while the associate members include many of the foremost men and women of the country, Mrs. William McKinley being one of those whom the Amesbury ladies are pleased to include among the latest members of the Association. To see how and where a man lived is to know him better, and in no way can we teach so close and personal a feeling for our noted men and women who have passed away, as in preserving and opening their homes for the benefit of the generations to come.

Emily B. Smith.

CULTURE.

In considering the benefits and emoluments of culture clubs, I have heard of a number of young women graduated by the university of Nebraska who have returned to their homes in the small western towns of the State and refused to join the clubs established with a view to help themselves and others by women who love culture, but who have lacked the collegiate opportunity to acquire it. The reason given was the insufficient one that university graduates had nothing to gain from associating with those who were trying to make up to themselves what fortune had refused them earlier.

Now culture that cannot be shared with or used for society is not worth the price that each graduate costs the State. A student who returns to the farming or village community which has been taxed for his education and scornfully refuses to contribute in any way to the society whose foresight is educating the youth of the State, repudiates his debt and hinders evolution. He is a thankless beggar because he has been associating with the best writers on economics, with Shakespeare, Homer and Dante, all of whom gave back again to our use that which God gave them. A truly learned soul yearns to share, to help and to express the first and the last lesson of culture: "Help one another." Besides, it is not true that the unlettered cannot teach the college graduate, who has been separated from the toiling masses in the cloisters of learning. The humble learn more than the haughty though they cannot always spell it. They have been living, loving and toiling, while the student has only been reading and the latter has yet to prove that he has learned anything worth what we have spent on him.—Sarah B. Harris in Lincoln (Neb.) Courier.

A SCHOOL OF HOUSEKEEPING.

A short report of the School of Housekeeping, established last fall by the Women's Educational and Industrial Union of Boston, appeared our May number. From the annual report of the committee, we now give further particulars, in the belief that clubs all over this country will be interested in this venture:

As the result of the season's work, which began last spring with the search for a suitable location, the School of Housekeeping may be said to be firmly established. It has cost \$8751.49 to start the enterprise. Of this amount there should be deducted first, the sum of \$881.07 spent in repairs and changes to make the place fitted to its purpose; and second, \$2593.62 expended in furnishing the two houses, both of which expenditures do not, of course, represent the annual needs of the school. So much of the year's expenses have gone into what is known in the business world as "the plant," and may now be regarded as a part of the Union's possessions. The first year of any new undertaking is one of serious ordeal. It is therefore cause for congratulation that the school has passed this experimental period with what would be ordinarily termed a large share of success. But the Union has set the highest standard for this school, which, in certain of its phases, may be regarded as reformatory.

The school was opened for pupils the 15th of October; for classes of housekeepers November 1st. There have been given up to June two courses of semi-weekly morning lectures, two courses of weekly afternoon lectures, and some special class work arranged in answer to personal applications. There have been received from these classes, \$1152; and paid to the lecturers, excepting the superintendent—who has given practically all the demonstrations and the talks to pupils—\$720. There have been received from the boarding house, all the rooms of which were not immediately occupied, owing to the lateness of the season, \$1582.94. Notwithstanding the necessarily large outlay, the committee report that from the \$5000 appropriated by the Union, and the \$2171 received in donations, there remain on hand \$1154.55.

With the close of the lecture season its contract with the superintendent, Miss Maria Daniell, who has engagements elsewhere for the summer, terminated. Miss Daniell brought to this enterprise at the critical time of its inauguration, a high reputation for work in kindred lines, an extended acquaintance and exceptional personal popularity. The committee announce as her successor, a woman also of high repute who will develop the work of the school on broad lines. Mrs. Katherine Dunn comes from the Brooklyn Institute, where she has been the head of the Domestic Economic Department. She has also been Secretary of the Household Economic Association of New York. She has already given a most interesting lecture at the school upon "Two Basic Foods." She expresses herself in full sympathy with the ethical purposes of the school and as anxious to make by zealous work a definite contribution to the cause of improved conditions in household service.

The practical industrial part of the work pertains to the training of the pupils. There were graduated in February and March two groups of five and four general houseworkers. Eight pupils finished their course in June. The first term was fixed at not less than three months. The committee found that this shortest period was not long enough to give the instruction required in kitchen, dining room, parlor, chamber, laundry work and cooking. The second term was, therefore, fixed at not less than four months.

Even with the careful instruction given and an exact statement of the preparation the pupils have received, it is essential

that great care should be taken to place the graduates at first with intelligent women, who will understand that training does not mean experience, and does not imply judgment.

The training of the pupils is continued through the summer and the boarding house kept open, if not by the patronage of regular, at least by that of temporary boarders, who may be for one reason or another staying in the city. The part of the house affording the training corresponding to the home is essential to the full instruction of the pupils, and the members of the Union can all give help by spreading the report of this plan to accept transients in the house during the months of June, July and August.

By their year's experience the committee had revealed to them the real magnitude of the task they essayed. They now say most emphatically that they need the help of all women. They cannot accomplish anything worth while without this aid, sympathy and co-operation. But with the support which every woman can give of one sort or another, the task of placing housework on a plane with other kinds of labor and of making workers as efficient in its as in other vocations can assuredly be accomplished.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB DISCUSSIONS.

- Have Women the Creative Faculty?
- The Social Side of Home Life.
- The Use and Abuse of Christmas.
- The Woman who has Power.
- Co-operation of Clubs with the Public Schools.
- American Manners.
- Can a Woman Acquire as Much Knowledge in an Hour Spent at the Club as She Would by Giving the Same Time to the Same Study at Home?
- What is the Tendency of Modern Fiction Toward Forming the Character of the Young?
- Is the Lessening Authority of the Father in the Family for the Best Interests of All?
- The Curfew as a Preventive of Crime in the Young.
- Are the Amusements and Recreations of Women Rational?
- Does Organization Among Women Develop the Finer Qualities?
- Social Status of Women.
- The Mugwump in Politics.
- American Architecture.
- The West Indies.
- Popular Astronomy and Camille Flammarion.
- Economic Condition of Mexico.
- Poets and Flowers.
- Great American Diplomats.

ABOUT RIGHT.

A MODERN maid, of years a score,
A Massachusetts road flew o'er,
All trig and taut in bloomers.
The native stared as on she flew;
Of bifurcated skirts he knew
Naught save the merest rumors.

On seeing him she paused. "O, pray,
Good sir," she said, "is this the way
To Wareham? If not, where and how—?"
"Wal, Miss," he said, with curious glance,
"They're new to me, but I would chance
My pile you wear 'em 'bout right now."

General Federation of Women's Clubs.

LIST OF OFFICERS:

President,
MRS. WILLIAM B. LOWE,
573 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga.
Vice-President,
MRS. SARAH S. PLATT,
Hotel Metropole, Denver, Colo.

Recording Secretary,
MRS. EMMA A. FOX,
21 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Mich.
Corresponding Secretary,
MRS. G. W. KENDRICK, Jr.,
3507 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer,
MRS. PHILIP N. MOORE,
1520 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
Auditor,
MRS. C. P. BARNES,
1026 3rd Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky.

THE GENERAL FEDERATION.

A FEW words about the women who make up the new board of the G. F. W. C. cannot fail of interest to the readers of *The Club Woman*.

Mrs. William B. Lowe of Atlanta, Ga., typifies the finest of Southern woman; and the editor of this paper has so often written in the most glowing terms of Georgia women that it is almost unnecessary to say more. Mrs. Lowe is thoroughly cosmopolitan. She has moved in the best social circles and resigned a position of social leadership to devote her time to the club movement in the South. She has traveled extensively; is handsome, dignified, graceful, womanly, cultivated and well-gowned. In 1895 when the Cotton States exposition was held in Atlanta, the G. F. W. C. held a council meeting there. Mrs. Lowe became thoroughly interested and inserted a call inviting the women of Atlanta to meet at her house to organize a club. It was the beginning of the Woman's Club of Atlanta, which has now 400 members. Six months later she organized the Georgia State Federation. Since then she has spent much time traveling and organizing through the South, not only in Georgia, but in Alabama and in South Carolina. The growth of the club movement in this section has been marvelous, and it is felt that by giving the presidency of the General Federation to the South, a wise thing is being done towards extending this great organization where it is most needed. Mrs. Lowe almost immediately resigned the presidency of the Georgia Federation in favor of the vice-president, Mrs. J. Lindsay Johnson of Rome, who is a brilliant and active club leader besides being editor of the Georgia Federation organ, the *Rome Georgian*. The home of the Lowes on Peachtree street, Atlanta, is one of the handsomest on that most beautiful of American residence streets. Mrs. Lowe made an excellent impression upon all who met and heard her in Denver, and there is no doubt but that she will have the earnest co-operation and loyal support of the North, the East and the West, as well as the South which she so ably represents.

Of Mrs. Sarah S. Platt of Denver, the vice-president, there remains nothing new to be said. She is already too well known throughout the country to need comment. She was the first president of the Woman's Club of Denver, and has ever since wielded the gavel. The club has grown and waxed exceedingly strong under her leadership, until it is one of the largest and best known in the country. She is recognized as the best speaker in the Federation, and one of its ablest presiding officers. She is immensely popular in Denver, and the Biennial proved that this popularity extends from one end of the country to the other. Mrs. Platt went to Denver about fourteen years ago, from Massachusetts, which had been her home most of her life, although she was born in Vermont. She is president of the State Board of Charities and Corrections, and has refused nominations for public office more than once at the hands of political parties in Denver.

Mrs. C. P. Barnes of Louisville, the new auditor, has been recording secretary of the General Federation for four years. Her work as secretary has been thoroughly satisfactory to the

Federation. During the time she copied and indexed the entire minutes of the Federation since its inception in 1890. She prides herself on being a "Blue Grass woman," although part of her education was gained in Ohio. On the death of her husband, a few years ago, she assumed his business, a large retail store, first with her brother as partner, and afterwards alone. She has been successful, developing fine business qualities and great executive ability. She is very popular in Kentucky and is regarded as a representative club woman of that section. She was a charter member of the Woman's Club of Louisville.

Mrs. G. W. Kendrick, Jr., corresponding secretary, is a member of the well-known Civic Club of Philadelphia, and president of the Girls' High School Alumnae of that city, an organization numbering 1700 members. Her work in the Civic Club has been in the educational department. If the women of the clubs have anything new that they wish to introduce in the schools, Mrs. Kendrick can always influence the teachers in the interest of the reform. Also if the teachers need the co-operation of the club women, they are sure to appeal to Mrs. Kendrick. She is a very wealthy woman, daughter of Murdock, the actor. She is a native of Philadelphia, and is both able and willing to give time and means to the office to which she has been elected.

Mrs. Emma A. Fox of Detroit, the new recording secretary, is one of the leading club women of Michigan. She is an ex-president of both the Detroit Woman's Club and the Michigan State Federation. She was also a charter member of the Twentieth Century Club of Detroit. She is considered the authority on parliamentary law in the State of Michigan. She has classes which are very largely attended, especially those at Ann Arbor, where the university students, the professors and their wives form her pupils. Mrs. Fox was the first woman in Detroit elected to the board of education. She is a thoroughly competent business woman, one who commands the respect of all with whom she comes in contact.

Mrs. Philip N. Moore, treasurer, has served two terms as corresponding secretary. She was also one of the committee who made arrangements for the fourth Biennial. She is a woman of excellent judgment, fine discriminating taste and broad sympathy and has proved herself a leader among women. She is quiet and reserved and is held in high esteem in St. Louis. She was educated at Rockford, Ill., and Vassar College, of which she is a graduate.

The list of directors shows the names of some of the finest women of the General Federation. Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood of Washington, is president of the Federation of the District of Columbia, and also of the International Woman's Press Union. Mrs. C. S. Kinney of Salt Lake, has served as chairman of correspondence for Utah and has been in club work for many years. She is a niece of the late Charlotte Emerson Brown, the first president of the Federation. Mrs. Charles H. Morris of Berlin, Wis., is greatly beloved by the women of the State Federation of which she is president. She is the author of a course of study for clubs which is a valuable adjunct to club work. Under her fostering care the Wisconsin Federation has

accomplished a wonderful amount of practical work. Mrs. H. H. Pyle is president of the Woman's Club of Bridgeport, Conn., and was one of the enthusiastic organizers of the Connecticut Federation, of which she is now the vice-president. Mrs. E. L. Buchwalter of Springfield, Ohio, has served the State as chairman of correspondence, is an enthusiastic club woman and has made a specialty of library work. Mrs. William Tod Helmuth is best known as the president for three terms of that noted club, Sorosis, of New York, and is now president of the New York State Federation. Mrs. Harriet B. Windsor is president of the Conversation Club of Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. Frank Ford of Omaha is chairman of the Woman's Board of the Omaha exposition; and the success of that department has been largely due to her efforts. She has served one term as director. Mrs. Frances A. Eastman, of Los Angeles is also a holdover, this being a re-election.

WELCOME.

The following verses were written for the opening exercises at Denver, but were crowded out by the long program. Mrs. Eleanor Fullerton of Denver, the author, has kindly forwarded them to The Club Woman:

IN the shadow of the mountains,
'Neath the smiling skies of June,
Here, with hands outstretched in greeting,
O, dear sisters! late and soon

We have waited for your coming,
From the cities by the sea,
From the hills of dear New England,
From the prairies wide and free.

From the Sunny South we greet you,
Voices soft, and faces fair,
Welcome to this land of promise,
To our pure untainted air.

When with hearts and souls uplifted,
To the sunny heights above,
We will cheer each other onward
By the power of perfect love.

Not for sordid gain, or honor
Do we meet 'neath these bright skies,
Nobler are our aims, our missions,
To make earth a Paradise.

Men may wonder as we gather,
If we come for good or ill,
Let them see, tho' strong of purpose,
We are tender women still.

Strong to aid our sister women,
Strong to battle for the right,
Strong to lift them out of darkness
Into freedom, into light.

Sisters, thus we bid you welcome,
With full hearts here may ye rest,
'Neath the grandeur of the mountains,
'Mid the glories of the West.

STATE FEDERATION NEWS.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Mrs. Electa N. L. Walton, chairman of the educational committee for Massachusetts, reported at the annual meeting at Amesbury in June as follows:

The circular which your committee on education sent out near the close of the last club year, suggesting topics for consideration, and asking for a report of whatever action might be taken for the cause, met with a small but appreciative response. Among the earliest to respond was the All Around Dickens Club of Boston, which chose as a topic, "What Shall Our Children Read?" They also inaugurated a children's day.

The Ladies' Physiological Institute immediately voted to devote one session in October or November to special consideration of educational subjects.

The Lothrop Club of Beverly wrote that they devoted two meetings each year to education, urged the establishment of kindergartens, helped on the work of art, and aimed to secure women on the school committee.

The Marlborough Club wrote they had devoted one session for each of two years to the needs of the Marlborough schools, that they had sent out a special committee to visit the public schools, had arranged evening lectures from noted educators, inviting the school board, teachers and citizens to attend, and were going this year to invite the teachers to an afternoon tea.

Others reported great interest in their schools, especially in their sanitary condition, and had instituted many reforms in the matter of cleanliness. The Natick Women's Club established mothers' meetings and with the co-operation of the superintendent brought out excellent results. The Framingham Woman's Club was very much alive and early held a meeting to discuss what they could do for education. But time will admit of no more quotations. I cite these to show the variety of work undertaken.

The first meeting of the Federation this season was held Dec. 8th in Worcester. The program was arranged by the education committee and presented some problems in primary education, each problem being discussed by an acknowledged authority on the subject. Miss Lucy Wheelock spoke on "Free Kindergartens," Miss Pingree on "Day Nurseries as a Department of Social Settlement Work," Dr. G. Stanley Hall on the "Education of Motherhood," and Dr. Burnham on "School Hygiene."

Mothers' meetings and classes for child study were heartily recommended, and a paper was given by Mrs. Morse of Marlboro, on "What Clubs Can Do for Education."

Our second meeting in January was a special meeting at the Bijou Theatre in Boston to discuss some topics connected with secondary education, the principal one being "Manual Training." Prof. Ward of Cambridge spoke on "The Moral Effects of Industrial Training," and Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer on "Manual Training for Girls."

Mr. Edwin D. Mead told us "How to Teach Patriotism to Young People," after which we were favored by Mrs. Henrotin, who gave the closing address on "The Responsibility of the Club Federation."

The meeting of the Federation in Lowell was educational also, though not arranged by your committee, the general subject being history.

Besides these meetings, a part of the Attleboro meeting, that upon the "Destruction of Our Wild Birds," and the "Waste of Animal Life," bore directly upon education; the latter topic, presented by Dr. Hodge of Clark University, was supplemented by him with an offer of two prizes to children, to be

given for the best two essays on the growth and habits of the toad, an endeavor on his part to induce boys to watch and study the toad instead of pelting it with stones. I am told that a similar offer previously made to the boys in Worcester has produced a remarkable effect.

Our second circular, on the working of the free text book law, was the result of an application of one of your clubs to investigate the subject. We have received 76 replies to that circular, some most carefully prepared, and all very valuable.

The sources of information given were mostly superintendents of schools, teachers or school committees. To these may be added some parents and members of club committees.

It was found by the replies that dictionaries and readers were longest in use, the time sometimes extending to 10 years; that generally books were allowed to be taken home at the discretion of the teacher; that when they had been in homes visited by contagious diseases all books were destroyed or not allowed to be returned; that when books were given up by the classes seldom was anything done, besides recovering, to renovate them. No cases were reported where diseases had been communicated by old school books, though some thought there was danger.

Among the evils incident to the system were:

1. The effect upon a neat, sensitive child of being obliged to handle the vile smelling, dirty things.

2. Careless habits engendered by the use of filthy books. This was emphasized by almost all as a crying evil, though two or three said the children in their town or school took better care of the books than if they owned them.

3. The deprivation to the pupil of the foundation for a home library and, in after life, of school associations which could be strengthened by their possession; some telling of the pleasure they have in the possession of their old school books. One who has been in the educational line ever since his majority, and who has a large library full of good books, writes:

"My old text books of 55 years ago are my special treasures in my library today." The same writer says: "I would make the books so free that they could be used only so long as perfect sanitary conditions could be enforced." Possibly he might contrive an application of the law that would satisfy the pupil aesthetically, give him the pleasure of ownership, and at the same time satisfy the towns financially.

4. The paucity of reference books in the home, more than half of the families and in some neighborhoods 95 per cent. being reported without any.

What advantage have we in the law to offset these evils?

One great advantage is the saving of time. Formerly, at the commencement of a term a great deal of time was lost by the neglect of parents in providing the proper text books. Now all are ready on the first day.

Then, too, a serious burden of expense is removed from the parent, and, in consequence, a much better school attendance in many places is secured.

The president of the Nantucket Sorosis writes:

"To Nantucket the Free Text Book law has proved a decided benefit. The attendance in our advanced grades has steadily increased. Under the old system parents often found the purchase of books for several children difficult. The older children dropped out from the grammar schools, drifted into employments of a secondary character and for want of knowledge seldom rose above that level."

To the question "What changes, if any, would you recommend in the Text Book law?" many said: "Any change that would prevent a class inheriting soiled, worn and dilapidated books," but only three wished the law abolished. A high school principal wrote: "The condition of books after use by

many of our pupils for a short time is such as to shock and nauseate many of the more sensitive pupils, especially the girls. Think of reading Homer or Virgil or Shakespeare from a soiled, greasy, dilapidated copy with a view to getting at their literary excellencies and ethic and aesthetic qualities. I should like to see the free text book law (as far as high schools are concerned) abolished."

To offset this came an argument ten pages long from a superintendent, giving a history of the law and stating that never, where it has been tried, has it been revoked. I quote:

The system is not a fad. It has always been in vogue, I understand, in Bristol, R. I. Philadelphia adopted the system 50 years ago, the larger cities of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Vermont from 20 to 40 years ago.

The states and dates of adoption of the permissive law are as follows: Massachusetts, 1873; Connecticut, 1886; Colorado and Wisconsin, 1887; Maryland, 1888; Michigan, 1889; South Dakota, 1890; Minnesota, 1893; Ohio, 1894; North Dakota, 1895.

Compulsory law adopted: Massachusetts, 1884; Maine and New Hampshire, 1889; Delaware and Nebraska, 1891; Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Idaho, 1893; New Jersey and Vermont, 1894.

In New York state, without any law, free text books are furnished in New York city, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Syracuse and about 20 smaller cities. St. Louis furnishes them in the four lowest grades and Washington, D. C., to all but high school pupils.

Out of 28 cities in the United States of more than 100,000 population the system has been adopted by 17.

Of the fourteen cities between 65,000 and 100,000 population, the system has been adopted by nine.

After a careful tabulation and study of the replies, your committee came to the conclusion that on the whole the law is about as good as the people are prepared for at present. Before any great change can be made either in the law itself or in its enforcement, it is necessary to awaken an interest on the part of the parents and citizens generally to the necessity of larger appropriations, that the great evils may be avoided. From Secretary Hill's report, I find that in the school year 1887-8 the cost per pupil was \$1.49; in 1897-8, \$1.59 and the average for ten years \$1.62. The system was made compulsory in 1884, and previous to that the expense of furnishing indigent pupils almost solely was nearly as great as the expense since of furnishing the entire school population, rising in 1880 to \$1.11 per pupil if averaged among all who attended school.

The present tax is much less than was required of the parents in any town previous to their being furnished by the town itself, and many citizens would be glad, and all should be willing now, to pay a somewhat higher rate, if, by so doing, they could make it possible to reap all the advantages of the system without its evils.

The Fortnightly of Winchester says: "The feeling is strong in the town that some reform is needed, and still there has been no movement for it. I hope your investigation will bring it about." The town is trying the plan of allowing children to use the same copies of their text books as long as they need them, and it is practically done with the class books most used. This is the case also in Somerville, Salem and a few other places, including at least some districts in Boston.

The Salem Woman's Club reports: The following plan has been urged by the text book committee of Salem for several years, but has not gone into effect because the city solicitor objected on the ground that it was not legal to give away city property:

"Present to each child entering either of the several schools

a complete set of such text books as are used through the whole course in the school; give the child to understand that the books are his individual property, provided he completes the course, and that he is responsible for their condition and safe keeping and that he can take them home when he graduates."

The expense at the outset would be much smaller than might at first be supposed, while the advantages to be gained would justify even a much larger outlay. She continues: "Should this system be adopted the greatest objection to the free text book law, the disappearance from the homes of practical text books, would be overcome. The city would be relieved of considerable expense in repairing and replacing of books, a better condition of text books as a whole would result, as a sense of ownership increases care in everyday use, and the danger from contagion is largely reduced."

The Haverhill Literary Union and many other clubs favor allowing pupils when arriving at the fourth grade a dictionary and an atlas for their very own on graduation, provided that if they injure or destroy them they shall be responsible and obliged to replace them. Others would add a United States history, an arithmetic and geography, and several some standard literature as higher grades are reached; one the Bible.

The Haverhill Literary Union, by the way, made a most careful investigation and sent a very full response, advocating strongly a plan very similar to that urged by the Salem text book committee. They present a telling picture of the carelessness of the schoolboy at play, with books thrust aside meanwhile, and of the reckless abuse of pencils, pens, etc., by those to whom every Gillott's pen once meant a penny, and a lead pencil was a cherished treasure.

One simple remedy strongly recommended was a school bag, and they agree that it would be economy for the city government to furnish them, and say that in the parochial schools pupils are obliged to use them. An effort is to be made at once to compel their use in Haverhill, the bags to be made under the direction of the sewing teacher and sold to those who can afford to buy, given to those who cannot. I would like to quote the whole report but haven't time.

The correspondent of the Newton Centre Club urges the use of the latest methods of disinfection, which are entirely free from the disagreeable features connected with the old method by sulphur. She says: "Books can be easily disinfected by the use of formaldehyde gas, with very simple appliances."

In Braintree no pupil is allowed to use a pencil or pen or any other material which belongs to another pupil. In the use of the pen and pencil boards each pupil has his own place, and they are not allowed to change them for the year. At the end of the year the boards are disinfected and old pencils and pen-stocks destroyed.

In Amesbury each child has his own books and is responsible for their condition, and the children are very careful, I am told, in the use of their books.

From Miss Parker, the superintendent, through Mrs. Hunt of the North Shore Club of Lynn, suggests: "The cities might be authorized to sell school books at a reduced rate to those who desire to purchase." This is an excellent recommendation, as cities and towns can buy at a reduced rate and would lose nothing thereby.

Just one word more as a plea for honest dealing. As an objection to the plan of allowing children who wished to keep discarded books, one correspondent says: "The payment allowed by publishers for text books going out of use is out of proportion to their value and has something to do with putting new books into the market. This payment is too considerable to give up." This reminds me of what I once heard from an

agent of the Board of Education. On going near a closet in the town of ——— he detected an offensive odor, and inquiring into the cause found the closet floor piled up with old books that had been worn out and discarded by the school, but kept so that whenever the town should change their text books the publisher of the new text books should be given these books to take at half price! And this in the 19th century in Puritan New England. I am told that in many towns you will find that when any exchange of text books is made there is an unaccountable large number of old books to be disposed of in exchange for new ones.

Passing from the text book investigation, you may ask what work is proposed to the clubs for the future.

As experts are now carefully studying methods of teaching, and as our towns generally employ experts as superintendents (only 6.2 per cent. of our school population being without skilled supervision), it is probable that most of us have a superintendent for our schools. If you have none, I trust you will use what influence you have to secure one. If you have a good superintendent he is likely to know more of best methods than you do, so do not criticize him too hastily if his are not just the methods by which we used to be taught, or by which some of us used to teach. Let us learn the whys of his methods and help to furnish any appliances he may need. Let us visit the schools and encourage both teacher and pupil by our intelligent appreciation of what we see and hear; let us see what the school rooms lack to make them homelike and attractive, and help to secure what is needed. We can encourage neatness and even help to clean up the rooms, see that the windows are washed, the floor scrubbed now and then, that damp dusting cloths are used and that there are connected with every school conveniences for washing faces and hands.

And here let me say that school bathrooms have been found very beneficial. They were first established in Goettingen, Germany, in 1883, in the basement of one of the school buildings. The entire cost of fixtures, including means of heating, was only \$186. It proved an eminent success. The example set in Goettingen was followed by other cities of Germany, Switzerland and Scandinavia, and now some 40 cities have warm shower baths in their common schools.

Munich, Berlin, Frankfurt and Cologne are putting baths in their new school houses. Officials, teachers, parents, pupils and sanitarians bear testimony in their favor.

School baths have been introduced in some form in Lynn and in Brookline, and Springfield is agitating the subject.

Our state laws have just made manual training mandatory in elementary as well as in high schools in all towns and cities of 20,000 or more inhabitants. Let us encourage our authorities to establish that training, and if it should not be introduced into our public schools let us see that it is taught in vacation schools, which, by the way, should be kept in every village. Some clubs are doing much for vacation schools already. I will instance the Social Science Club of Newton and the Cantabrigia and Mothers' clubs of Cambridge.

Beautify the walls of the school rooms with works of art. See what an art committee in one of our clubs has already done, the Woman in Council in Roxbury. From their treasury they have given pictures and casts to eight different schools, and to one of the grammar schools fine loose photos to be used as folio matter. Nearly all the pictures were carbon copies of famous pictures or places, suitably framed in oak.

As proof of the appreciation of the work the club has received many letters from both teachers and masters, and many individual notes from the children. In one school (the Lewis), where the St. Anthony was placed, the children learned the

story about the vision, before the picture came, that they might know St. Anthony and welcome him when he arrived.

The teacher who received Andrea del Sarto's St. John, wrote to know more about the master, and was sent a portrait of Del Sarto, with pictures of some of his principal works. In turn, we received a letter thanking us for helping her to know about what she had become interested in but did not know just how to look up.

To the teacher who received the Roman Victory came the same question, "Where can I find something about this beautiful cast?" To her was sent a rare copy from a work on Greek art.

Read Agent Henry T. Bailey's admirable report for this year on art; you will find many a hint there that will aid you in your selections of subjects, or Mr. Bailey will personally give you his advice. They have in the high school in Brookline \$250 worth of mounted photos kept to be loaned to the grammar and primary schools. They are to be loaned precisely as books are loaned from a library and are intended to help in the study of history, literature, geography and science as well as in art.

But above all, the morals of our children should be our special care, and as an aid I would recommend the advocacy of a trial of the curfew bell in every community.

The street at night is an effective school for law and order breakers and a nursery for many a young criminal. The restraints of the poorest home are at night generally much safer than the license of the street, and where the home is known to be worse than the street the children are likely to be worse also, and if kept in their homes would be less likely to contaminate others. I have heard nothing but commendation of the curfew where it has been tried, and its use is spreading, many Massachusetts communities favoring its adoption.

I will say, in closing, that no club can do all which your committee here suggests, but if only each club is incited to add one thing to what it is now doing and to do that thing well, the aggregate will be an untold good, and your committee will not have served you in vain.

The Federation afterward voted to recommend the plan presented by the Salem club, with regard to the gift outright of free text books to scholars who shall complete the course.

The time of the fall meeting of the Massachusetts will be changed this year from December to October, and the first meeting will be held at New Bedford. The subject will be "Sensational Journalism," and it is expected that among the speakers will be Gen. Charles H. Taylor of the Boston Globe, Mr. Murat Halstead of New York, Mr. Edward H. Clement of the Boston Transcript and possibly Mr. Joseph Jefferson.

ILLINOIS.

Following is the report given by Mrs. Alice Bradford Wiles, President of the Illinois Federation, at the Conference of State Presidents, at the Denver Biennial:

In the three minutes of time allotted me, it is impossible to give the barest outline of the growth of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs since the Louisville Biennial in 1896. Then we numbered ninety-nine clubs; now we number one hundred eighty-nine, with a certainty of passing the two hundred mark before our next annual meeting in October. Our individual membership is from fifteen to twenty thousand. Two years ago we had but one standing committee for active work, namely, a committee upon education. To-day we have seven, education, philanthropy, art, literature, music, libraries, and one devoted to the interests of the women students of the University of Illinois. Since an entire session is to be given to state reports

upon education and another session to the discussion of library interests, I shall omit at this time all reference to the work of Illinois committees upon these subjects and also upon the University of Illinois.

Of the remaining four committees the philanthropy is the oldest and its field is the broadest. Its motto is, "That philanthropy which is content to allay distress is the greatest hindrance to philanthropy which would prevent distress," and true to its motto, it urges prevention as well as alleviation. Thus the care of dependent children becomes its most cherished duty. In the performance of this duty, it co-operates with other agencies in attempting to place in private homes orphan children and the children of hopelessly vicious parents, and also in securing proper factory and compulsory education legislation and in enforcing laws which prohibit child begging, and selling liquor or tobacco to children. From the standpoint of philanthropy it advocates kindergartens and parental schools. It insists upon the need of co-ordination in the work of philanthropic societies, and has been able to organize "Associated Charities" in several leading cities. It has the constant and hearty assistance of the State Board of Charities, a member of the latter being also a member of our committee.

Upon invitation, the Illinois Federation sent official delegates to the last annual meeting of the Illinois Society of Charities and Corrections. In all phases of philanthropic work our committee urges the necessity of scientific study of the problems presented, and to this end it has sent to all our clubs a most valuable bibliography for the use of study classes. The various forms of direct benevolent work done through our clubs are too numerous to mention in these few minutes. Perhaps none is more important than the training of large classes of girls in domestic arts, including general housework, laundering, cooking and sewing. An offshoot of this work has been the free testing of the eyesight of children in these classes, and in one case of their teeth, and the consequent remedying of defects by experts.

Our literature committee endeavors to gain the ripest knowledge of the best methods for study of literature, science and history and then to spread this knowledge as widely as possible among the clubs. It lays the strongest possible emphasis upon the reading of good literature by both old and young, and therefore urges most careful selection of books for all libraries, and especially the most generous and most conscientious support of juvenile departments in all public libraries.

Our art committee, in addition to recommending courses of study upon art and encouraging public school room decoration, and also all that tends to make a city beautiful, will at our next annual meeting give an exhibition of household furnishings and utensils for the purpose of exemplifying the principles of good design in common things. The hope is to assist in bringing more beauty into our homes.

Our music committee interests itself not only in the study of music but most enthusiastically in popularizing it, and in giving good music more and more to the people at large. Open air concerts in summer and free concerts in churches and music halls in winter are eagerly advocated. Free concerts on Sunday afternoons in churches have been so successfully given under the auspices of club women in one of our Illinois cities that the largest edifices have not been adequate to hold the crowds, and these crowds were the shop girls, factory employes and railway men, who came with special cards of invitation distributed to them by club women.

Does not this exceedingly brief sketch of the work of the federated club women of Illinois show that they are striving after Emerson's ideal:

"Tis nobleness to serve;
Help them who cannot help again;
Beware from right to swerve."

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Five years ago an attempt was made to have a union meeting of delegates from women's clubs of the State, with the ultimate idea of Federation, but only five clubs could be located, and of that number only one responded to the invitation. This year, when the "Once a Week" Club of Seneca took the initiative and issued a call for delegates to convene at Seneca, and discuss the feasibility of federating, twenty-five clubs were located and eighteen answered the call. This shows the growth of the club movement in South Carolina, and from every indication as many more will be organized during this coming year.

On June the 14th, thirty or more women of earnest faith and loyal hearts, representing the cream of Southern womanhood, assembled in Seneca as the guests of the "Once a Week" Club. This organization, while limited in numbers, is yet possessed of mighty strength of purpose and its personnel is composed of brave, progressive women, as was evidenced by the thorough manner in which they arranged and carried out the convention program.

The convention was called to order promptly at 9 o'clock on the morning of June the 15th, and in an incredibly short time it settled down to steady work. Mrs. Clark Warring of Columbia was elected chairman, while Mrs. James Adams of Seneca acted as secretary. Much of the success of the convention was due to the efficiency of the temporary officers, and especially to Mrs. Warring's thorough knowledge of parliamentary usages.

Mrs. M. W. Coleman of Seneca outlined the object of the meeting in an address of welcome, and gave a cordial greeting to the delegates.

Miss Louise Poppenheim of Charleston responded in behalf of the visitors.

A committee on credentials was appointed and after their report was received a committee on constitution was appointed from the floor.

The several clubs represented made their reports, which were listened to attentively. Only one club reported as a department club—the "Once a Week" of Seneca—the majority of clubs being literary, with an occasional social feature. The Thursday Club of Greenville was the oldest represented, and had the further distinction of having three well-grown, healthy daughters to join the Federation with her.

Next year we hope to have several art and music clubs represented. One noticeable feature in the reports was the scarcity of libraries in the State; each club, with very few exceptions having to purchase its own reference books. This gave the keynote for our Federation's specific work—library extension. As the library movement in the State is in its incipency, there will be a long, hard pull before complete success can come, and it will take brave hearts and willing hands to accomplish it.

On Thursday morning, June the 16th, the committee on constitution made its report, and with a few minor changes it was adopted. The work of the Federation will embrace philanthropy, child-culture, literature, philosophy, horticulture, art, music, history, village improvement and civics.

The election of permanent officers resulted in the choice of Mrs. M. W. Coleman of Seneca, president; Mrs. T. Sumter Means, Spartanburg, vice-president; Miss Louisa Poppenheim, Charleston, recording secretary; Miss Mary Hemphill, Abbe-

ville, corresponding secretary; Miss E. J. Roach, Rock Hill, treasurer; Mrs. M. P. Gridley, Greenville, auditor. The ladies chosen are strong, earnest women, and will by their able management give the movement an impetus for the good of South Carolina womanhood.

Mrs. Coleman, who was unanimously chosen president, is possessed of a large fund of enthusiasm, strongly infused with practicality, and by her infectious zeal in the work succeeds in enthusing all of her co-workers. No choice of a chief executive could have been more felicitous, for she is personally charming and endowed with exquisite tact, which helps her over many opposing forces. By her efforts, ably assisted by the members of the "Once a Week" Club, was brought about the convention of club women, and the outgrowing South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs.

The next annual meeting will be held in Chester, S. C., during the first days of October.

During the discussion incidental to the adoption of reports, several excellent speeches were made. Miss Ida McCullough of Walhalla and Mrs. T. Sumter Means of Spartanburg addressed the convention on library work, and it was chiefly through their able talks that library extension was made the principal work of the Federation.

Havilene Thompkins.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The third annual field meeting of the New Hampshire Federation was held in Sunapee, July 13 and 14, by invitation of Mrs. Margaret T. Yardley, who is an honorary member of the Federation. It was the most successful field meeting the clubs have ever held, there being about one hundred and fifty club members present.

The affair was formally opened by a council meeting held in the parlors of the Ben Mere Inn, Wednesday afternoon. Wednesday evening a crowded meeting was held in the hall of the Inn. After the opening speeches of welcome and reply, the real attraction of the evening followed, a paper given by Mrs. Washington Roebling of New York on "The Coronation of the Czar." Mrs. Roebling, who is the woman who "finished Brooklyn Bridge," is a wonderfully pleasing speaker and held her audience from the start. The lecture was finely illustrated by stereopticon views, and thoroughly charmed the members of the Federation, who gave the lecturer round after round of applause as she closed her paper.

Thursday was given up to excursions and drives about Sunapee, for the beauty of which the place is famous. Foremost among these excursions was a complimentary ride about the lake in the steamer Armenia White, given to members of the Federation by the Lake Steamboat Co.

At four o'clock the club women were all invited to Mrs. Yardley's home to an old-fashioned quilting party. There, in the barn, was stretched on its frame a big "pieced" quilt, and every guest was expected to take her turn at quilting. There were the old-fashioned decorations of spinning-wheels and warming-pans, candle-moulds and foot stoves. Everything was old, even the quilt, which was said to be pieced eighty years ago. After the quilting came the delightful little reception on Mrs. Yardley's piazza, and still later the regular old-fashioned supper of coffee, sandwiches, pumpkin pies, cookies, and all the good things for which our grandmothers were famous. Everybody stayed as long as they could and left with genuine regret, full of praises for their honorary member and her hospitality.

In the evening came another meeting. Music was fur-

nished by Miss Patterson of Boston, after which some three-minute speeches were given by different ladies. These were all on club work and included the following: "Some Phases of Child Life," by Mrs. Thayer; "Kindergarten Work," by Mrs. Woodworth of Concord; "The Social Aspect of Clubs," by Mrs. McLane of Milford; "The Education of the Blind," by Mrs. Lockhart of Manchester; "The Need of a Bacteriological Laboratory in This State," by Mrs. Allen of Peterboro; "Forestry and the Preservation of Our Trees," by Mrs. Mason of No. Conway and Mrs. Knapp of Somersworth. Remarks on other lines of club work were made by Miss Akerman of Portsmouth and Mrs. Brown of Whitefield.

After these speeches Mrs. Yardley gave an interesting report of the National Federation meeting at Denver, which practically closed the field meeting of 1898.—Katherine L. Runnells, Cor. Sec'y. N. H. Federation of Women's Clubs.

Nashua, N. H., July 18, 1898.

COLORADO.

At Boulder, beginning July 4 and continuing six weeks, there has been a very successful Chautauqua assembly this summer, called the Texas-Colorado Chautauqua. The attendance was large, including a number of club women who stayed over from the Denver Biennial. On the opening day there were 1200 people in attendance. Perfect weather marked the occasion, and eminent people were in attendance. Governor Adams made the opening address and said some excellent things. As, for instance:

"The priests of Delphi could not have been more wise than the oracle who chose the natal day of American liberty on which to dedicate the Texas-Colorado Chautauqua. Education, culture, are the guarantees of liberty.

"Evolution is the mandate of fate. Nowhere so rapid as here. Lives still young have looked upon every phase of growth, from primitive wilderness to this Chautauqua, which represents the highest altitude of moral and intellectual aspiration yet attained. The prophets of old were not moulds of fashion. Unless by way of warning example, God never yet enlisted a dude to do his work. The advance of civilization has not depended on a dress suit. The cut and color of raiment are no sure evidence of manhood. Before the great white throne the builders of these Western empires can stand with open hearts. The West is the true America."

Hon. Henry Watterson of Kentucky followed, as did the Mayor of Boulder and other prominent men.

The special good thing the Chautauqua does is giving human beings a wider field of social intercourse, a wider range of knowledge, a wider area of acquaintance and friendship; in short, more friends, more thought, and the great beneficiaries in this way are women and children. Therefore the Woman's Council, conducted by Mrs. Noble L. Prentis in connection with this assembly, was of the highest importance. Well-known club women took part in the various programs and discussions and found the departments of study and work of great interest and value.

There was a fine lecture course, with the list of speakers containing the names of some of the most prominent men in this country, and there was a school for teachers which proved very satisfactory. Mrs. Prentis, who was the life and guiding spirit of this great undertaking, has had seven years' valuable experience at the Ottawa Assembly in Kansas. She is a well-known and much-beloved club woman of the Southwest.

KANSAS.

At the Winfield Chautauqua, which lasted this year from June 14 to 23, there was daily a "woman's hour," from four to five, which was found a valuable feature of the assembly. The program for this hour during the week was as follows: Wednesday, June 15th—Domestic Science: Paper, "Shall It Be Strength or Weakness?" Mrs. M. G. Hammond, Home Culture Club, Sterling. Talk, "The Art of Cooking." Thursday, June 16th—C. L. S. C. Round Table: Paper, "Sidney Lanier." Mrs. Charles Cohn, Sunflower Chautauqua Circle, Wichita. Readings from Lanier. Informal discussion. Friday, June 17th—Literature: Paper, "Literature for the Young," Mrs. E. May Hose, Hypatia, Wichita. Talk, "Goethe's Faust," Mrs. Earl Underwood, Fortnightly Club, Arkansas City. Saturday, June 18th—Music: Talk, "The Oratorio," Miss Jessie Clark, Musical Club, Wichita. Talk, "The Ballad," Mrs. Julia L. Whiteside, Hutchinson Ladies' Chorus. Monday, June 20th—Dress and Physical Culture: Talk, "Physical Culture and Expression," Mrs. John Clarkson, Entre Nous Club, Winfield. Tuesday, June 21st—Philanthropy: Paper, Mrs. Marietta Nelson, Chautauqua Circle, Guthrie, O. T. Talk, "Training School for Nurses," Miss Culter, Superintendent Wichita Hospital and Training School, Wichita. Wednesday, June 22d—Missions: A Reading, "The Missionary's Dream," Mrs. W. B. Shetz, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Wichita. The Deaconess' Home, Miss Henrietta Bancroft, Field Secretary of Deaconess' Work, Albion, Michigan. Thursday, June 23d—Art: Paper, "Art the Embodiment of Man's Thought," Mrs. James M. Kennedy, Woman's Mutual Benefit Club, Fredonia. Talk, "The Study of Art." Exhibition of pupils' work. Miss Jekyll, School of Art, Wichita. Miss Alma F. Pratt was the director of this department.

"Woman's Day" was Thursday, June 16, under the auspices of the Seventh District Federation of Clubs, of which Mrs. Belle Weimer Burkett of Kingman is president. The great features of this day were an address by Mrs. May Wright Sewall of Indianapolis, "The Present Outlook," and an evening lecture by Dr. J. H. Barrows of Chicago.

The Winfield Chautauqua is highly successful, this being its twelfth session. Mrs. W. C. Root of Winfield is the president, and the Rev. Dr. W. H. Parker, superintendent. The course this season covered domestic science, a school of methods, a Bible school, under direction of Prof. Shailer Mathews of Chicago University, art, kindergartens, English literature, and lectures by many noted people in their specialties.

WESTERN NEW YORK.

The second annual meeting of the Western New York Federation was held at Salamanca, June 1 and 2. A short business session occupied the first morning. In the afternoon Mrs. Beals gave the greeting and Mrs. Altman the response. There were original poems, a paper on Modern Criticism on Art as Aids to Travelers, and eight minute talks on the philosophy of everyday life, library appropriations, club influence, club travels, the influence of home, personal appearance and books, popular education, art, architecture, and girls' societies for mutual culture.

The president's address (Mrs. Frederick Lyon Charles) was given the evening of June 1. There was a paper on The Club Movement, by Jennie C. Croly, and a talk by Grace Carew Sheldon. There were also other papers, in addition to fine music, on the influence of earnest women, organization work, and the uses of mythology. An informal reception by the Olla Podrida Club closed the evening.

Thursday, June 2, there was another business meeting, after which "Household Economics" was the subject of discussion. The physical conditions of the home, the American kitchen, hygienic cooking, nutrition, light, ventilation, foods, co-operative homekeeping and housekeeping in the twentieth century, were all considered. "Alexander the Earnest of Russia" closed the morning session, and was a paper of great interest, by Mrs. Terry.

Thursday afternoon the subjects considered were: Domestic Equality, Woman's Voice and How to Use It, "Decently and in Order," and George Eliot, a Study, after which the new officers were declared, the final business transacted and the convention adjourned.

WASHINGTON.

The Washington State Federation of Women's Clubs held its second annual convention in Spokane, June 14, 15, 16. The convention was a success from start to finish. Everything had been done to make it so. Miss Calene S. Allen's address of welcome was especially noticeable as a finished literary production.

Much interest was manifested in the three-minute reports of the various clubs, especially those reporting altruistic work. Among the items reported were the following: The Woman's Club of Olympia has established a literature department. St. Helen's Club, Centralia, is trying to solve the tramp question and is interested in the sanitation of the local municipality. Ellensburg Club is interested in child study and a public library. Woman's Book Club, Everett, ranks among the first in the promotion of the interests of the community in which it exists. Nesika Club, Tacoma, is interested in the school. Woman's Club, North Yakima, published the Woman's Edition of the Yakima Herald.

The Woman's Century Club, Seattle, published a compilation of the laws of Washington with reference to women. Woman's Club, Snohomish, helped to support a free reading room. Culture Club, Spokane, reports work along the line of nature study and the establishing of a flower day in the public schools of that city. Froebel Club, Spokane, is doing a good work in child study and primary work in public, kindergarten and Sunday schools. Floral Association, Spokane, decorates the churches of that city. Woman's Club, Walla Walla, has started a public library. Alpha Club, Whidby, a traveling library, P. E. O. Club, charitable work. The educational committee also reported excellent work in traveling libraries, school room decoration and district improvement societies.

One of the pleasantest features of the convention of the Washington State Federation of Women's Clubs held in Spokane, Wash., in June, was the presentation in open session made by Mrs. Martha A. Bull (president of the Shakespeare Club of Tacoma) to Mrs. A. H. H. Stuart, "mother of clubs" in Washington, on behalf of the Federation, of a beautiful heart-shaped pin set with pearls and bearing in its center the Federation flower—clover—in green enamel. Mrs. Stuart founded the first woman's club in the Northwest more than 15 years ago and has given time, work and money to developing the "club idea," and the Washington women appreciate her love and labor in their behalf.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB connected with Chautauqua held a very successful series of meetings this summer from July 20 to Aug. 19. Discussions were held on Education, The Home and Social Reform, as follows:

1. Physical Life. 2. Federated Clubs. 3. Helps and Hindrances to Clubs. 4. Women's Work in the Churches. 5. Fathers and Mothers of the Submerged World. 6. Nature Studies in the Home. 7. Domestic Science. 8. One Hour in Parliamentary Practice. 9. The Poetry of Motherhood. 10. Organized Charities. 11. A Clue for the Study of Poetry. 12. Social Settlements.

Temperance Topics: Leader, Mrs. Catharine Lente Stevenson. 1. The Relation of Temperance Work to Foreign Missions. 2. The Rationale of the "Do Everything" Policy. 3. A White Life for Two. 4. Mothers' Meetings in the W. C. T. U. 5. Question Drawer.

Chautauqua Missionary Institute.—Saturday, July 30.—(1) Woman's Conference: "Home Missions in City and Town." Leader, Mrs. B. T. Vincent. (2) General Conference: "Missions and the Latin Races." Sunday, July 31.—(1) Missionary Consecration Service. (2) General Conference. Student Volunteer Meeting. Monday, Aug. 1.—(1) Woman's Conference: "Medical Missions for Women." (2) General Conference: "Education as a Factor in Missionary Work." Tuesday, Aug. 2.—(1) Woman's Conference: "Progress of Education Among Women in Mission Lands." (2) General Conference: "Echoes from Mission Fields" by returned missionaries.

Mrs. B. T. Vincent of University Park, Colo., is the president of this great club, which numbers members in every State. "Everybody knows of Chautauqua and has heard a great deal about its attractions," says the president in a private letter. "It is celebrated as a summer resort for rest and recreation; also as a seat of learning and culture, where the woman thirsting for a wider range of mental vision can come from her quiet country home and be brought in touch with the brightest and most wide awake minds in this and other lands; and as 'iron sharpeneth iron,' the bright progressive women of our country meet here and are inspired to greater attainments by interchange of thoughts." Among the many who address the Woman's Club of Chautauqua this year are the Countess of Aberdeen, Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago; Mrs. Emily Bishop, lecturer at Pratt and Drexel Institute; Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt of New York, subject, Political Economy; Mrs. Anna Botsford Comstock of Cornell University; Mrs. Emma Ewing, teacher of cooking and domestic economy; Dr. Mary Green of Charlotte, Mich.; Miss Amelia Hofer, Chicago; Mrs. Howard Inghram of Cleveland, O.; Dr. Eliza Mosher, professor in University of Michigan; Miss Annie S. Peck, traveler and mountain climber; Miss Ruth Sites of Foochow, China; Counsel Eva Booth-Tucker of the Salvation Army. A great many other distinguished women will be heard from. The Young Women's Club meets day after day, and their sessions and subjects are among the most interesting features of Chautauqua. Miss Mary Merrington is the leader.

Do not buy a baking powder of doubtful quality
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a pure cream of tartar powder with a record of
28 years' use among the best housekeepers.

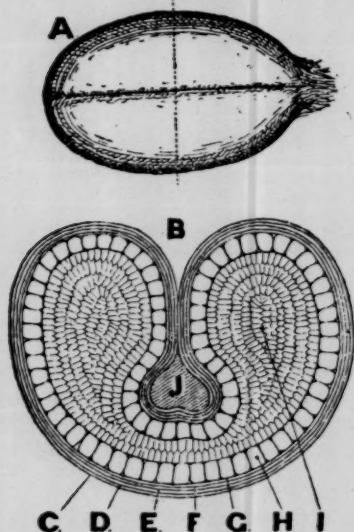
Cleveland Baking Powder Co., New York.

THE NEW ERA COOKING-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

Harriet A. Higbee, Superintendent, Worcester, Mass.

HANDICAPPED.

If we should suggest to parents that they start their children in the race of life handicapped—that is, placed at a disadvantage—so as to make the chance to succeed in the ratio of one in one thousand, they would doubt the truth of the statement. It is the inherent right of every child to be given a chance to grow into true womanhood or true manhood. If they do not so grow up, it is because their rights have been abridged. Who are the responsible parties in this matter? Of course, the parents. No mother would knowingly handicap her child so as to hinder its progress. Certainly not, but the result is the same whether she does it knowingly or unconsciously. As you build your child, he succeeds or fails, and this depends on the energy in and strength of the body. Energy and strength come from the food we take. Who selects and in many cases prepares the food? Who but the mother? The mother must come to understand the subject of child nurture or she must expect to see her child fail. Mothers may reverse the chance of failure so that it will stand as one thousand to one in favor of success. The power to succeed comes from living in harmony with natural laws. Of all natural laws none is more disregarded than that in respect to the food we take. Any thinking person can readily see that the American people are handicapped from the start. It has been said that the bolting cloth of the miller will become the shroud of the American people. Let us examine the little wheat kernel as illustrated on this page and see if there be truth in this statement. A is the whole wheat kernel.



B is the kernel cut open on the dotted line so that we can see the inside of it. The outside line C is the first bran coat and does not furnish nutriment to any part of the body, but is necessary as bulk or waste food. D and E contain mineral matter, or fixed phosphates, devoted to building the bones and teeth, and nitrogenous matter which enters into the muscles and every tissue of the body. F and G contain a cerealine substance that gives color and flavor to the wheat. H is the layer of gluten cells—nitrogenous matter—that also builds the muscles and all the tissues of the body. I is that part of the kernel that contains starch grains intermingled with minute albuminoid cells, constituting the greater part of the kernel, and is the part white flour is made from. J is the germ of the kernel which contains the vital principle and mineral matter, the soluble phosphates that supply vitality and nourish the brain and nerves. The germ, bran coats and a large part of the gluten are removed during the process of making fine white flour; the gluten is removed because it gives a grey color to the flour, and the bran and germ because

they cannot be bolted, as the demand is for a fine white flour.

Now, if the carbonaceous or starchy property of white flour, which only supplies the heat and energy of the body, were all that is needed in the wheat, the kernel would have contained no other property; but as the bones, teeth, nerves, brain and muscles are entitled to their proper amount of nourishment, it would seem to indicate that Nature understood our requirements better than man, and we are doing a great wrong when we throw away what has been so wisely and generously provided for our use. Now, in the manufacture of Shredded Whole Wheat Biscuit, which is the basic, or standard food of this school, you will see, by consulting the above drawing, that every property necessary for building the body, as found in the whole wheat, is retained. So the mother may, by the use of this standard food, lighten the burden of responsibility; for thus she can be certain that every element of her child's body may be properly nourished, and to just the extent that this is accomplished is her child free to succeed. The following recipes will aid the mother in providing a variety of natural food dishes:

Creamed Cauliflower on Shredded Wheat Biscuit Toast.—One good sized cauliflower, 6 Shredded Wheat Biscuit, 4 tablespoons Entire Wheat Flour, 4 tablespoons butter, 1 teaspoon salt, $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon paprika, 1 cup of water in which the cauliflower was cooked, 1 cup of rich milk. Remove outside green leaves, cut the head into quarters and cover with salted cold water for one hour. Turn off the cold water and cover with boiling water, cook till tender. Then remove from water, cover with a towel and set in warm place. Make sauce of flour, butter, salt, paprika, milk and water from the cauliflower. Split and toast the Biscuit, place on warm platter, arrange cauliflower neatly on the halves, breaking it up. Turn a little sauce over all, and send remaining sauce to table in gravy boat to be added there.

Sliced Tomatoes on Shredded Wheat Biscuit.—Six ripe tomatoes, 6 Shredded Wheat Biscuit, head lettuce, pepper, salt, 6 tablespoons Royal salad dressing, 1 pint milk. Wash the lettuce and put on ice to crisp, arrange on a platter. Dip the Biscuit in cold milk, drain out all the milk possible, and lay on the lettuce leaves. Pare and slice the tomatoes, and arrange nicely on the tops of the Biscuit. Salt and pepper lightly, and dress with the salad dressing.

Steamed Blueberry Pudding.—Three cups rolled and sifted Shredded Wheat Biscuit, 1 cup Entire Wheat Flour, 1 cup sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter, 1 level teaspoon salt, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 cup blueberries, 1 2-3 cups milk. Rub the butter into the crumbs, add the sugar and blueberries, then the flour, baking powder and salt sifted together. Mix well and add the milk, stir in quickly and turn into a buttered mould, and steam 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Serve with hard or sweet sauce.

Shredded Wheat Biscuit with Peaches.—Twelve ripe peaches, 1 cup granulated sugar, 6 Biscuit, 1 pint milk, 1 cup cream whipped. Peel and cut the peaches into small pieces, add the sugar, and set on the ice 1 hour. When ready to serve dip the Biscuit in the cold milk, drain off as much milk as possible, place on the plate on which it is to be served and let stand five minutes. Put a layer of the peaches over the top, using the syrup also, then dress with the whipped cream.

Blackberry Shortcake.—One quart blackberries, 4 Shredded Wheat Biscuit, 2-3 cup sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint cream. Pick over and wash the blackberries, crush half of them, and add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar. Split the Biscuit lengthwise with a sharp-pointed knife, put a layer of the crushed fruit between the halves, letting the juice saturate the Biscuit, then place top of the Biscuit over the crushed berries. Cover the top with whole berries, sprinkle with the remainder of the sugar, and serve with cream. The Biscuit may be prepared in the same way with strawberries, raspberries or currants.

THE COLONIAL CLUB, of Keene, N. H., has taken the initiative in originating and executing the plan of offering a prize to the pupils of the high school for the best essay upon a given subject. This is an innovation, so far as we know, upon the usual routine of club work, in this State at least, and the object is to awaken new interest along educational lines, and stimulate the pupils in our public schools to greater effort. "The Colonial History of New Hampshire," or "New Hampshire before the Revolution," was the topic chosen for the first contest, and five pupils competed for the prize. Three judges had been chosen previous to the meeting of the club: one editor, one clergyman and one lawyer. The competitors submitted their essays without signatures but with letters attached. For instance: Miss Ramsdell "C," Mr. Hines "B." The papers were examined privately by each judge, and on comparing notes they found that without consultation, or collusion, each had decided that "C" had won the prize and that "B" should have honorable mention! This unanimous verdict was due to the fact that the essay by "C" was the most correct and comprehensive history of New Hampshire, and the most finished in construction. "B" received honorable mention on account of originality of thought and expression. One of the ladies of the club (Mrs. Beals) kindly opened her home for the entertainment of the members, pupils and judges on the night the essays were read, and her spacious parlors were beautifully decorated with the national colors, and on entering each guest was presented with a small flag to be worn upon the person. All the essays were read with distinct enunciation and an intelligent understanding of the subject. At the conclusion of the readings the president, Mrs. S. G. Griffin, introduced the judge whose duty it was to present the prize of ten dollars. After appropriate remarks and the presentation, the superintendent of schools, Dr. T. M. Harris, responded, expressing his sincere thanks for this pioneer movement of the Colonial Club, and his belief that it would be a great encouragement and stimulus to the pupils of the high school and the results would be inestimable in inciting a spirit of commendable emulation.

The second enjoyable feature of the evening was a book-title guessing contest, and another of the pupils won the prize in this exercise. Delicious refreshments were served and the guests reluctantly separated, having passed a most delightful evening.

It has been voted by the club that in the coming year three prizes shall be given, one of five dollars, one of three dollars and one of two dollars, instead of one of ten dollars, thus encouraging more pupils to enter the lists. Another lady of the club (Mrs. Holmes) held what she called "teachers' night" one evening during the winter. Thoughtfully remembering that some of the teachers who belonged to the club were not conveniently situated for its entertainment, she invited a special meeting at her home, giving each teacher the privilege of asking a friend to come with her. Refreshments were served and a graphophone exhibition added a pleasing variety to the enjoyments of the evening.

Thus our Colonial Club is striving to depart from a regular and perhaps monotonous order of procedure, and embrace outside interests in its plans and purposes.

A Member.

We take pleasure in calling attention of intending investors to the advertisement in this issue of Messrs. Harvey Fisk & Sons, 13 Congress street, Boston, also of New York and Philadelphia. This firm, for many years well and favorably known as Fisk & Hatch, has been identified with the leading financial transactions of the country, and is an authority upon all questions of investment.

THE SYMPHONY.

A few moments of explanation makes you master of the Symphony, the great instrument that reads and interprets your musical library. This orchestra, complete in one instrument, is used by the most skilful musicians in studying the compositions of the great masters. A thorough knowledge of musical literature can be secured with the Symphony without spending tedious years in mastering instrument technique.

It is the music listener's instrument, the busy man's delight. Child or grandmother can play it. Come to our Symphony Parlor and play something; it is the only way the instrument can be appreciated.

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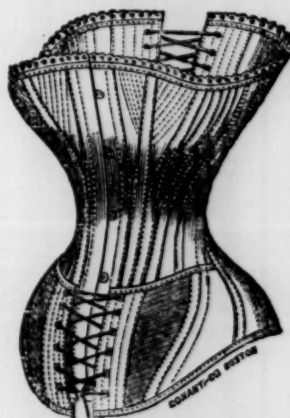
A splendid quartet of piano makers represented on our sales floor by their best productions.

It would be difficult to name any grade of piano that cannot be found in our stock. Your ideas of price, design, construction, finish, touch and tone are sure to be found combined in one of the many instruments we sell.

OLIVER DITSON COMPANY,

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**140-141 BOYLSTON STREET,
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Patented June 22, 1897.

Something Entirely
New for ♣ ♣ ♣
Fleshy Ladies. ♣

LENGTHENS THE WAIST.
SUPPORTS AND REDUCES THE ABDOMEN.

Made to order and carefully
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All ladies who have used the **NE PLUS ULTRA FACE BEAUTIFIER** and **WRINKLE REMOVER**, bless the moment they found it. A natural, clear, soft skin and faultless complexion, free of wrinkles, freckles, tan, liver spots and pimples is the reward for all ladies who use my wonderful preparations.

Ladies who saw me on my opening day eight years ago find me younger looking now. I am 61 years old, and am taken for 35 or 40. Please call and be convinced and accept a sample bottle to try before you invest, or send for free sealed circulars, containing testimonials and price lists. **MME. CAROLINE**, Face Specialist, and sole agent for the **Parisian Gray Hair Restorer** (not a dye). Parlors, 16 W. 23d Street, and 223 6th Avenue, New York.

To the Club Woman:

The George Washington Memorial Association held a very interesting and successful convention at Cambridge Springs, Penn., lasting from June 7 to 10.

Eighty-nine new charter members were accepted, and reports from the Chairmen of States and Committees proved, by encouraging results, what fine work had been done throughout the Union.

Addresses were made by the president, Mrs. Ellen M. Richardson, Right Rev. B. B. Usher, Mrs. Calvin S. Brice and others, on the aims and purposes of the George Washington Memorial Association, and the relation of schools and colleges to our work.

Resolutions passed by the Board of Education of the city of Cincinnati were accepted as a means of bringing the methods and purposes of the association before schools.

It was Resolved, "That the Superintendent of Public Schools is hereby authorized to arrange a special Washington Memorial entertainment in the various schools on a day prior to the next 22d day of February, consisting of essays, declamations and such other exercises as may be appropriate to the occasion and to be approved by the Board of Education, the purpose of which should be for the creation of a sentiment favorable to higher education in the United States as may be exemplified in the founding of a National Washington University according to the provisions of the will of George Washington."

Mrs. Jessie E. Southwick was appointed a delegate to present the work of the association at the meeting of the National Educational Association in July.

May Wright Sewall, President of the National Council of Women, asked that a delegate be sent to the meeting of the council in October, and also to the triennial meeting of the council.

Mrs. Richardson, President of the Association, was appointed delegate for the two meetings—and was also made a patron of the National Council of Women.

A design for a seal for the George Washington Memorial Association was accepted from Caldwell of Philadelphia, who will be authorized to make all insignia for the association.

Mrs. Richardson, President of the G. W. M., presented the work of the association at Denver, and again at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha.

While we, as a body and individually, recognize our full duty to our country in its hour of need, we do not forget the obligations which rest upon us of working for the victories of peace.

"The George Washington Memorial movement is the natural step in the evolution of education."

"No nation can ascend the heights of real freedom unless equipped with the alpenstock of knowledge by which it climbs."
—Clara R. Anthony, Chairman for Mass. G. W. M.

Domestic science has now obtained such a foot-hold among the departments of the average woman's club that club women are rapidly finding out the true principles of hygienic living. That is one of the reasons why Cleveland's Baking Powder takes the lead over all others: because women are fast becoming educated to a standard where they demand absolute purity in the various chemical compounds which are household necessities. The well-known explorer, Lieut. Peary, U. S. N., says of Cleveland's Baking Powder, which he used on his Arctic Expeditions: "Cleveland's stood the tests of use in those high latitudes and severe temperatures perfectly and gave entire satisfaction. Mrs. Peary considers that there is no better baking powder made than Cleveland's. I shall take it again on my next expedition."

When a woman goes into business her best customers ought to be among her own sex; there should be a comradeship and loyalty among women which would induce them always to patronize their sisters whenever it is possible. This is exceptionally true when the business woman deals in the best class of goods. As a rule a woman will deal in nothing but honest goods and will do business in a straightforward way, giving good measure and reliable goods. This will be found true in every case by club women who patronize Mrs. E. M. BRIGGS of 131 TREMONT STREET, BOSTON, whose specialty is the noted Silk Sponge Underwear, which is so warmly recommended by leading physicians and, indeed, by all who have ever tried it. It is the best possible protection against rheumatism, sudden colds and pulmonary complaints. It comes in three grades and Mrs. Briggs will gladly send samples by mail. All her goods are made to order at a very reasonable price, and it will pay any one to investigate before buying this fall's supply of underwear. Mention The Club Woman, please, when you write or call.



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For Ladies, Misses, Children and the Baby.

Also for MATERNITY.

Infants' First Clothes, without pins or bindings. Chemolets, Princess Skirts and Union Garments in great variety.

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29 Temple Place, Boston, Mass.

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The Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law,

By HARRIETTE R. SHATTUCK.

This manual is especially prepared for the use of women in their clubs. Parliamentary principles and rules are given, the reasons why certain things are done are explained, and supplemented by practical illustrations, which make clear the points presented. The book is made as elementary and simple as possible, and thousands of women who are organizing clubs will find it just what they want.

Among the subjects included are: How to Organize a Meeting; How to Form a Permanent Society; Calling to Order; Addressing the Chair; Election of Officers; Model of a Constitution and By-Laws; The Quorum; Routine Business; The Order of Business; How to Make, Second, State and Put Motions; Rules for Debate; Contesting and Yielding the Floor; The Previous Question; Different Methods of Voting; The Votes; Reconsideration of Votes; Nature and Effect of Amendments; Ways to Amend; Dependent and Independent Motions; The Motions to Adjourn, to Lay on the Table, to Postpone, and to Commit; The Committee's Duties and Its Report; Questions of Privilege, and Questions of Order; all carefully explained and illustrated.

The Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law is used as the authority in the conduct of all Meetings by

The General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Single copy 75 cents. Six or more copies 60 cents each. Sent postage paid on receipt of price by

The Club Woman, 104 School Street,
Egleston Sq., Boston.

One of the most observed of the many distinguished women in Denver was Mrs. William J. Bryan, who was a delegate from her own club, Sorosis, of Lincoln, and she made a fine impression upon all who came in contact with her.

Club headquarters at the Omaha Exposition are located in the Liberal Arts Building, next to the office of Mrs. Frances M. Ford, who has general charge of them. The room is tastefully fitted up with pictures of club presidents and club houses, pretty furniture, etc., and is a cosy and attractive place to rest in after tramping through the great exposition and seeing the sights. The Club Woman is kept on file there and Mrs. Ford is its exposition representative.

Mrs. Gilbert McClurg gave a lawn party at her home in Colorado Springs, Col., on the afternoon of July 22, which was attended by all the club women of Colorado Springs and by many visiting club women besides. Mrs. Henrotin was present and made an eloquent speech, and there were reports of the Denver meetings, fine music and dainty refreshments. As many prominent women from other States were prolonging their Biennial trip by a stay at Colorado Springs, and these were all present, the affair was a delightful reunion of choice Federation spirits.

Miss O. M. E. Rowe, the newly-elected president of the Massachusetts State Federation, is receiving many congratulations upon her election to this proud position. As she has been acting president for a year, the club women of the Bay State know she will meet every emergency and rise to every opportunity in a way to do them honor. Miss Rowe is a native of New Hampshire. She was educated at South Berwick Academy, and at Ipswich, being an alumna of the latter academy. She has spent several seasons in Europe, and is a woman of broad and cultivated mind and philanthropic tendencies. She is a member of the New England Woman's Club, the Twentieth Century Club, the Boston Browning Society, and she was for several years vice-president of the Massachusetts Association of the Working Women's Clubs. She is a sister of Dr. Rowe of the City Hospital and makes her home with him in an apartment filled with artistic belongings and colonial furnishings, which bear testimony to her family, her culture and refinement.

Mrs. Viola Price Franklin, after several years of study at Wellesley College and the University of Chicago, under such famous instructors as Dr. R. G. Moulton, Dr. Triggs, Prof. MacClintock and Vida Scudder, now offers her services to women's clubs as a lecturer upon English Literature. A series of lectures on Short Story Writers has been well received by a woman's club in Chicago, also one at Springfield, Mo. Other desirable lectures are, one on English Poets of the Nineteenth Century, American Poets, The Romantic Movement, The Art of Literary Criticism, The Arthurian Legend, The Song of Roland, Womanhood in English Prose, The Growth of the Epic.

Mrs. Franklin is a charter member of a Sorosis, a founder of one federated club, a member of another, and interested in many phases of club work. She also outlines work for clubs, planning courses of study, similar to university extension syllabi. As editor of the Club Page in the Nebraska State Journal, Mrs. Franklin will gladly make use of any information sent her concerning the work of clubs throughout the country. She is especially desirous of any data bearing upon the growth of university extension courses in the women's clubs. Her address is the State University, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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M^{RS}. WALDRON, Electrician and Specialist, will receive patients for the permanent cure of this annoying blemish, and of Moles, Warts and similar excrescences by a special gentle method, approved by physicians, absolutely sure and painless. Without scars or discomfort of any kind. Consultation or correspondence cordially invited and strictly confidential. Highest references. Private parlors. 131 NEWBURY ST., NEAR COPLEY SQ., BOSTON.

What a change has come over the world in the last half century in the matter of traveling. To our grandmothers, a trip to New York was an event of quite as great importance as a run over to Europe to the woman of to-day. A five days' stage coach journey, in fact, was much more fatiguing than the trip across in a modern Atlantic liner. Think of the contrast with to-day. Now, we step aboard a luxurious railroad train at the Park Square station in Boston and enjoy the swift hour's run to Fall River, where, without the slightest inconvenience or exposure to inclement weather, we go aboard those magnificent steamers the "Priscilla" or the "Puritan," which are the finest boats in the world and luxurious beyond the dreams of a Cleopatra or the Queen of Sheba. After a pleasant hour or two, during which we may repair to the dining room and enjoy a good dinner, or listen to a fine band concert, we seek repose in a handsomely appointed state-room with "all the comforts of home." A good night's rest follows and the waking brings us to the wharf in New York, ready for business or pleasure as we will. Surely, the twentieth century cannot bring us an easier trip between Boston and New York—unless it gives us flying machines.

Club women everywhere will please note the following:
To The Club Woman, Boston, Mass.:

At the Denver Biennial a resolution was passed to the effect that the literary report should not be published until 1000 copies were subscribed for. I write to ask you to mention this in the September Club Woman, urging the necessity of subscribing at once. The price of the volume is \$1.00. Subscriptions should be sent to me. Very truly yours, Emma A. Fox, Recording Secretary G. F. W. C.

What can we do for the young women who graduate from our high schools and colleges? Accustomed for years to routine work, they are unused to apportioning their own time, and after vacation pleasures are over, will hardly know what to do with it, or with themselves. The opportunity is ripe for organizing these active alert girls into clubs which shall continue the education so well begun.—Mrs. Amy P. Stacy, President Washington State Federation.

A knowledge of parliamentary usages is now considered a necessary qualification of every successful club woman, and those who have given the subject any special attention have demonstrated the fact that women can become both efficient and graceful presiding officers. Neither is there any excuse for a lack of knowledge on these points, since The Club Woman has an excellent department on this subject; and, moreover, we can send Mrs. Shattuck's "Woman's Manual" for 75 cents, post paid.

The New Era Cooking School has begun in a modest way to introduce its teachings in Nebraska. The theory that natural foods make natural conditions has implanted many questions in the minds of home-makers. The fact that we can build our bodies as we will, and that of just such materials as we select we will be composed, has not heretofore been seriously considered by the body builders, the mothers and the cooks, and to present that fact is the mission of the teachers sent out from that school. Mrs. Harriet McMurphy of the Omaha Woman's Club has charge of a large exhibit at the Trans-Mississippi exposition, and is giving daily exhibits there with marked success.

For the visitor or the stay-at-home in Boston, a trip to old Plymouth by steamer is unquestionably the most delightful harbor excursion out of Boston, combining a pleasant sail along the beautiful "South Shore," with its rugged and fertile landscapes, and allowing a stop of three hours at Plymouth, giving ample time for dinner and a visit to the numerous places of historic interest. The new steel hull steamer Plymouth leaves the Winthrop Line Wharf, 478 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, daily at 10 A. M., returning from Plymouth at 3.30 P. M. This steamer is new, fast and thoroughly equipped with all modern conveniences for comfort and safety. Special rates are made to clubs, societies, schools, etc., on application.

Mrs. Laura E. Scammon of Kansas City, president of the Missouri Federation, has been appointed commissioner for her State to the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha.

LECTURERS

Should send for our special rates. The Club Woman offers exceptional opportunities for reaching women's clubs all over the country. Now is the time to put your announcement before committees making up their programme for the coming year.

H. W. PATTEE & CO.,

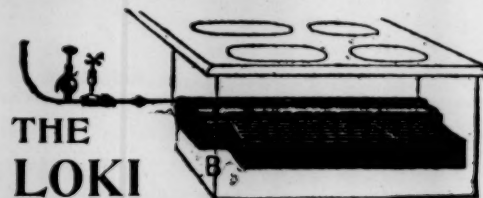
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* Burn Oil Gas in Your Range *
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BURNER IS THE BEST.

Makes Cooking Easy. Fits Any Range. Safe, Quiet, Clean, Cheap.
See it burning at 53 CORNHILL, BOSTON.

The American Kitchen Magazine

gives its readers a broad and progressive treatment of domestic science.

Its standpoint is distinctively educational; its methods are always practical.

It is not an exponent of society fads.

It does not voice the theories of any one school or society; its policy is to give American women the benefit of every possible improvement in household management.

Its contents, therefore, include the results of expert scientific experiment and the tried wisdom of practical housekeepers.

Its aim is to aid in establishing an individual and municipal housekeeping that shall be simple and healthful, scientific and reasonable.

MARY J. LINCOLN and ANNA BARROWS, Editors.

WRITE FOR A FREE SAMPLE TO

The Home Science Publishing Co.,
Boston, Mass.

THE FUNNY SIDE.

EVIDENTLY the women of the "Federation Special" did not make a deep impression on the heart of the average Western masculine. It was at Cincinnati that an old man stood on the sidewalk when we filed out of the train, who said to one of the leaders:

"Who are all these women, anyway, and what are they doing out here?"

"Why, they are club women," was the answer, "and they are going out to hold a great convention at Denver. Some of the most prominent club women in the country are in this party."

"Um-m-m," replied the old man reflectively. "They may be something on brains, but they ain't much on looks."

At Gypsum City the "city marshal," a typical old Kansan, had brought his family down to see the train load of women go through, and as we filed into the eating-house for dinner and out again they gazed at us with the rest of the population of Gypsum City, with the air of connoisseurs.

"Wal," volunteered the old man, after a careful inspection and with a charming frankness, "there ain't a good-lookin' one amongst the hull lot of ye."

"Why, I'm here," spoke up one of the plainest members.

The old man took a long survey and then he said:

"Wal, you look some better than the rest."

Mrs. F. B. Clark, president of the Portland Literary Union, had taken her camera along, and when she saw the "city marshal" at Gypsum City she said:

"O, I would like so much to take your picture. I want to take it home with me as a souvenir of the place."

"Wal, we ain't dressed up much," answered the official. "I told my wife she orter fixed up more, but she wouldn't."

"That doesn't matter," said Mrs. Clark, "I want you just as you are. Won't you stand still together a minute?"

"What, ain't you goin' to give us a chance to primp up a little?"

"No," was the reply, "there isn't time. Besides I want you just as you are.—There!" and the camera was snapped.

"Be I took?" asked the old lady.

"You be," answered Mrs. Clark.

Nothing, however, was funnier on the whole trip than the scene between calm, stately, serene Cynthia Westover-Alden and the little fussy matron of the eating-house at Gypsum City. We had struggled in to the dining-room, and Mrs. Alden was standing in a state of indecision as to where she should sit.

"Here, set here!" said the woman, bustling up and seizing a chair.

Mrs. Alden calmly remained standing.

"Set down I tell ye! Don't you s'pose I've got anything to do but wait on you?"

Still Mrs. Alden looked down from her serene height. The woman seized the chair in both hands and shook it fiercely.

"Can't ye se' down when you're told?" she asked.

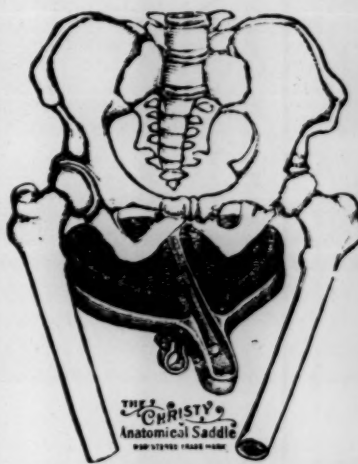
"And who are you?" came in unruffled tones from the New York Tribune representative.

"I'm the landlady, and I tell ye to set down!"

"O, that settles it," meekly replied Mrs. Alden, and she dropped into the chair. And everybody else followed her example.

Going up Pike's Peak a youth—still in knee breeches, al-

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though he wore a collar of extraordinary height and stiffness—had been detailed to accompany us. Every few minutes he stood up and shouted the names of certain boulders and streams. When we were nearly up he called out:

"On the right is the Lion's Mouth!"

"Why is it called the Lion's Mouth?" asked a skeptical lady, who had pestered him with "whys" all the way.

"Aw, I dunno," said the lad, tired of being asked for explanation. "I was told to holler these names. I dunno why nothin'. It's my job to holler, and so I holler."

It was at the credential committee's desk. Women by the hundreds had been up and presented their receipts for dues and their credential cards, and exchanged them for the familiar blue ribbon badge bearing "Denver, 1898," in silver. Finally two more came up, evidently quite unused to the ways of conventions. They asked for tickets and invitations.

"Have you your credentials?" asked the committee.

"No," was the reply.

"Are you delegates from any club?" persisted the committee.

"No. We ain't delegates," answered the bolder of the two. "We just came along for fun. We ain't federated, but we belong to a Progressive Club,—me'n her."

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